



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

Head Office: 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Branch Offices	Meibourne, Vic. ..	Fink's Buildings, Elizabeth Street.
	Sydney, N.S.W. ..	114 Pitt Street.
	Adelaide, S.A. ..	76 Brookman's Building, Grenfell Street.
	New York, U.S.A. ..	Park Row Building.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Ten shillings a year in advance, post free to any part of the world, including a copy of *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY* next published. Single copy, 4d.; Summer or Winter Number, 1s.; *DIARY*, 3s. 6d. Postal orders and cheques to be crossed "Martin's Bank (Limited)."

Prix de l'abonnement: The Chemist and Druggist une fois par semaine, et l'agenda du Chemist and Druggist une fois par an, 12.50 francs par an, franco.

Abonnementspreis: The Chemist and Druggist einmal wöchentlich, und Notizkalender des Chemist and Druggist einmal im Jahre, 10 Mark jährlich, frei in's Haus geliefert.

Precio de suscripción: The Chemist and Druggist una vez por semana, y el Agenda del Chemist and Druggist una vez al año, 12.50 pesetas anuales, franco.

THIS JOURNAL is regularly supplied by subscription to the whole of the Members of FIFTEEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES in the British Empire. The associate Journal, *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, published at Melbourne and Sydney, is also supplied to all Australasian subscribers.

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OUR NEXT ISSUE.

The offices of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. We would be obliged if correspondents would post all copy so that we may receive it, if possible, on Tuesday of next week. Only a small portion of the issue will be reserved for Thursday, including the Coloured Supplement, for which the Publisher will receive advertisements delivered at the office by Thursday morning's post (December 26).

Poisons Schedule Card.

We have had extra copies of this card printed and can supply them at 3d. each post free, or 10s. per hundred, if not less than fifty are taken. Packets of one dozen will be sent post free for 2s.

Summary.

A FEW alterations in the proposed German tariff are given on p. 984.

THE B.P. as a standard has been discussed at Edinburgh (p. 985).

THE London Chemists' Association is now taking shape (p. 980).

"LOTIO NIGRA" is the subject of a useful paper by Mr. George Roe reported on p. 987.

SOME useful criticisms of the B.P.C. Formulary by Mr. D. B. Dott are printed on p. 985.

AN ACTION for infringement of the saccharin patent has been started in Dundee (p. 983).

THE Young Chemists' Association has been inaugurated at Newcastle-on-Tyne (p. 988).

APPRENTICESHIP-SCARCITY is not due to the Preliminary examination, say Edinburgh chemists (p. 987).

RED ENVELOPES should only be used for letters to be delivered at night. Chemists' Ball, please note (p. 981).

PROFESSOR CUTLER has concluded his course of lectures on Trade-mark Law, and we report the last on p. 991.

MR. GULLIVER delivered his inaugural address to the Western Chemists' Association on Wednesday evening (p. 988).

FURTHER particulars regarding the tragic death of Mr. D. Milne, a Scotch chemist, in the Transvaal, are given on p. 984.

MR. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN's studies of the B.P. have brought him into contact with artist and poet, as shown by what appears on p. 998.

TAYLOR'S DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED) has succeeded in getting out of the charge of selling methylated-soap liniment, by proving that the summons was served outside the time-limit provided by the 1899 Act (p. 1004).

THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY had an extra meeting last week. Whips and wires brought a big audience, and the Council came off victorious in the move to deprive it of the power to fix the time of meeting (p. 989).

WE are able to give in an article on p. 1000 some assurance that the Board of Inland Revenue does not propose to depart from use and wont in administering the Medicine-stamp Acts. Some hints as to stamping are also given on p. 1008.

OTHER SOAP-LINIMENT CHARGES have been raised in North London, and a company which sold methylated belladonna liniment satisfied the Highgate Magistrates that the purchaser was told that rectified liniment was not kept, and so had the summons dismissed (p. 1004).

THE JUBILEE of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was celebrated in Edinburgh this week, and we report the speeches made at the dinner, prefacing the report with a survey of the Branch's history, which is illustrated with some interesting portraits (p. 992).

DR. STEELE SMITH, who recently before the General Medical Council "showed fight," has now had to answer a charge under Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act for a sale of Fellows's syrup. He appeared for himself, and the Sheriff agreed with him that the Society had no title to sue (p. 1004).

THE principal movements in the markets have been an advance in refined camphor and a slight reduction in morphine. Pilocarpine is considerably dearer; quinine is flat; and both shellac and sticklac are dearer. Sulphate of copper is easier. At the cinchona-auctions the unit was practically unchanged (p. 1010).

Diary Coupon-competition.

We would be glad if subscribers will fill up and return the postcards which are enclosed with all the copies of *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*, 1902, which have been sent out. There are two cards, A and B, and ten guineas will be awarded in prizes under the conditions stated on the cards.

"C. & D." Winter Issue.

THE Winter Issue of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* for 1902 will be published on January 25, and our Publisher is now booking space for advertisements and reserving positions for insets. In this preliminary note we need only say that those who intend to have insets, and have not yet acquainted the Publisher with the fact, should communicate with him by an early post.

Corner for Students.

CONDUCTED BY LEONARD DOBBIN, PH.D.

Students, please note. All communications should be addressed to the Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a *stamped and addressed envelope*, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Monday, December 23, and the samples will be posted on the following day.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, January 4. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Penzance Town Council has appointed Mr. P. Gerald Sanford analyst under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The chemists of Wellington (Salop) have decided to close their places of business on the two days following Christmas Day.

Messrs. Newton, Chambers & Co. have contracted to supply Izal soft-soap to Rotherham Workhouse for the current half-year.

At Colchester on December 12, William Thomas Mynors, medical assistant and dispenser, was committed for trial on a charge of bigamy.

Ernest E. Goodner has been committed for trial at Margate on a charge of falsifying accounts and embezzling various sums of money from Idris & Co. (Limited).

Edmund Cooke (20), dispenser to Dr. Tate, of Mansfield, was bound over by the Mansfield Magistrates on December 12 for embezzling 11*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* belonging to his employer.

The St. Faith's (Norwich) Board of Guardians has accepted the tender of Mr. John Cossey, chemist and druggist, Maddermarket, Norwich, for the supply of trusses to the workhouse.

The West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at their meeting at Bromley on December 13, decided to allow the admission of the effluent from Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.'s works at Dartford into their main sewer.

A verdict of death from heart-disease was returned at the Lambeth Coroner's Court at an inquest on Albert Boyd, described as a chemist, lately residing at 231 Kennington Road, whose death took place on December 14. Deceased had only recently retired from business.

The Spectacle-makers' Company's dinner was held on December 18, at the Carpenters' Hall, London Wall. The Astronomer Royal paid the Company a high compliment for the work it has done in promoting the technical education of opticians. It was a source of pain to him to find that they had to go to Germany for so many of their optical instruments; and what was needed in this country was the technical education of their workmen, so that they might be able to compete with and even surpass Continental workmen.

The Home Office has issued through the Chief Inspector of Factories a memorandum requiring the makers of aerated water to provide face-guards, masks, or veils of wire-gauze for the use of their workers. Mr. Snell's report which led up to this was noted in the *C. & D.*, August 10, page 275.

On Tuesday evening, Mr. A. Russell Bennet, F.C.S., Nottingham, delivered a lecture, entitled "Botanical Rambles around Nottingham," in the hall attached to the Mansfield Road Presbyterian Church, Nottingham. He showed, by means of an oxy-hydrogen lantern, some very fine slides illustrating the sundews.

Thomas Rheinhardt, a German electrician, was remanded at Marlborough Street Police Court last week, on a charge of breaking and entering 8 Stafford Street, St. George's, and stealing a bracelet, locket, four gold rings, watch and chain, and other articles, together with 14*l.* 15*s.*, the property of Mr. Edward Whineray, chemist and druggist.

At Manchester on December 18, the hearing of the charges of fraud against thirteen persons connected with the Patent Novelties Company (Limited) and other companies whose offices were in Balls Head Yard, Manchester, was resumed, evidence being given as to the account of the company with Parr's Bank. The hearing was continued on Thursday.

At Bow Street on December 13, Charles Frederick Way and Joseph Hall were charged with conspiring with Edward Barrow (not in custody) to defraud. Prisoners carried on a company called "Barrow & Way," makers of perfumery and sauces, and obtained sums ranging from 50*l.* to 150*l.* from persons who were assured they would receive good appointments under the company. Hall was allowed out on bail, but the other prisoner was remanded in custody.

In the City of London Court on Friday, before Judge Rentoul, the District Chemical Company (Limited), of Fenchurch Avenue, E.C., sued Mr. T. Mander, 49 Rosoman Street, Clerkenwell, for 3*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, the value of ten 2-cwt. bags of soda-crystal supplied to the Kavanagh Stores. The defendant told the Court that the debt was due from a Mr. Kavanagh, who was dead. Defendant was the manager, and declared that the plaintiffs had addressed their letters to Kavanagh. The case was adjourned for them to be produced.

At a meeting of Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co.'s workmen at the Winnington Chemical-works, held at Northwich on December 12, it was reported that the shift men had asked for an increased wage of 6*d.* a shift, and the day men an increase of 6*d.* a day, and that the firm had replied they could not see their way to grant the increase. The meeting passed a resolution that the application was just and reasonable in view of the nature of the work and Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co.'s high profits, and that the claims for advances should be pressed.

London Chemists' Association.

A meeting of the committee appointed to take steps to form an Association of metropolitan chemists was held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel on Wednesday afternoon, December 18. Messrs. Burton, Campbell, Jones, Glyn-Jones, Pellet, Pentney, and Pond were present. The constitution, objects, and work of the Association were well discussed and unanimously agreed upon, and a sub-committee was appointed to put into shape the views of the gentlemen present, and to draw up a provisional list of rules for submission to the committee, which will meet again in a few days.

The Poisons Committee.

At the Privy Council office on Thursday, December 19, the committee appointed to consider Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, again met, and heard evidence from various traders who wish to sell poisons in sealed packets.

Straits Settlements' Products.

In the course of an illustrated lecture at the Imperial Institute on December 16, by Mr. H. N. Ridley, Director of the Botanic Gardens, Singapore, he stated that the forests, which originally covered the whole peninsula, contain many valuable products, such as wood-oil, benzoin, gutta-percha, and rattans. Owing to the felling of the trees by the Malays,

in order to extract it, guttapercha has been nearly exterminated; but the product is now extracted from the leaves and twigs without injury to the trees, which are being planted by the Government. A very large area of the Federated States is under coffee and most of the planters are adding para-rubber to their estates. Indiarubber from the *Ficus elastica* also promises well. Mr. Ridley also referred to pepper, nutmegs, cloves, and indigo.

Post-office Notices.

The chemists' ball tickets for gentlemen are sent out this year in brilliant scarlet envelopes. In view of the following we cannot predict what will happen to the genial Secretary:—

Attention having been called to the fact that red envelopes are being supplied for the purpose of enclosing Christmas and New Year cards, the Postmaster-General finds it necessary to give notice that, inasmuch as red envelopes have for years been used for a particular class of letters intended to be called for at night, the use of envelopes of this colour for other correspondence must lead to mis-sorting and delay, and therefore to public inconvenience.

The same notice mentions the practice of printing advertisements over the greater part of the address side of postal-packets as a source of inconvenience, and also possibly against the regulations, in order to comply with which at least the right-hand half of the front of a packet should be reserved exclusively for the address and the postage-stamps.

Inter-Pharmacy League.

Metropolitan College v. London College.—This match was played on the ground of the last-named on December 14, it having been a postponed fixture on account of the fog a month ago. The game was stubbornly contested, and resulted in a win for the Metros. by 2 goals to nil. A strong wind prevailed, which somewhat marred the game.

Birmingham Notes.

A course of bacteriology well suited to the needs of pharmacists will begin on January 13, 1902, at the 'Varsity. The fee is low and the teachers are men who have lectured before our local Association.

A new side-line for pharmacists is being developed by a local chemist, who advertises "Cinematograph-exhibitions with most approved machine. Freedom from danger. Engagements now booked for bazaars, socials, soirées, &c; also dissolving-view entertainments, with large bi-unial lantern."

The dead body of William Ernest Wilson (22), an assistant in the employ of Messrs. Phillip Harris & Co., wholesale druggists, Birmingham, was found on a farm at Streetley last week. At the inquest, on December 11, the jury returned a verdict of found dead, as there was no evidence to show how deceased came by his death.

The Chemical Society in connection with Birmingham Technical School is reported to be in a bad way. Last session the interest shown by the members was so small, and the committee received so little support, that they have not felt justified in arranging a definite programme of meetings for the current term. The Society has only been in existence for two sessions.

The partnership between Messrs. Arblaster and Churchill has been dissolved, the former remaining as sole proprietor (see "Business Changes"). The partnership was the result of two contiguous businesses amalgamating, but when high rents became fashionable on the main side of New Street, the business was moved to the other side, some distance from the previous shop. Mr. Walter Churchill was formerly a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society and a factor in the now defunct Trade Association, which did so much to protect chemists from the over-officiousness of public analysts and their emissaries when the Act was first passed.

Boots and Taylors.

The opening of Boots (Limited) at their new branch in Bradford a few days ago has been followed by a newspaper-advertisement war between them and Taylor's Drug Company (Limited) on a scale which must be very gratifying to the three Bradford daily newspapers. Boots inform the public that at the "old-fashioned chemists' shops," with a small

and slow turnover, drugs remain in stock for years and spoil by the keeping; but, by reason of their fast sales, they can beat any other chemists in England. Taylors respond by referring to their reputation for over a quarter of a century, and exhibit the extent of their hold on the densely-populated district round about Leeds and Bradford by publishing a list of their branches. Boots deal with this display by the announcement that they do the largest direct trade with the public in England. The newspaper-struggle between these two companies seems likely to continue for some time. Boots (Limited) are to open shops at Briggate and King Edward Street, Leeds.

Window-smashing.

The driver of a dog-cart was endeavouring to turn in the vicinity of Boots' chemist shop in Narrow Street, Peterborough, on December 7, when his horse took fright and backed into Boots' plate-glass window, doing damage to the extent of 10*l*.

On December 11 an exciting scene occurred in Osborne Street, Hull, when a runaway horse attached to a carrier's cart dashed into the shop-window of Mr. J. G. Milner, chemist and druggist. The window was broken, and damage to the extent of 20*l*. was done.

Kruger the Apothecary.

At Bow Street on December 14, Max Hugo Ferdinand Kruger (33), described as an apothecary, was brought up for extradition, charged with forgery and obtaining about 5,000*m*. by false pretences at Breslau, Germany. When arrested and charged prisoner said, "If I had known a week ago I should have poisoned myself. I brought some morphia with me from Germany, but threw it away." The prisoner was remanded.

Acquitted.

At the Newington Sessions on December 12, George Liddle (40), clerk, was indicted for having stolen a quantity of boxes of Beecham's, Carter's, and other pills to the value of 3*l*., the property of George Mence Smith. Evidence was given that the prisoner sold some of the pills to a Borough chemist at a price much lower than the usual wholesale rate. The chemist informed the police of the transaction, and the prisoner, on paying a second visit to the shop, was arrested, the police finding another lot of pills at the prisoner's lodgings. Samples of the goods were afterwards identified to some extent as having formed part of the stock of a firm in Southwark Street, but the means of identification were not complete owing to the labels bearing trade numbers having been removed from some of the packages. The point upon which the prosecution chiefly depended, however, was a secret numbering of each pill-box by figures concealed under a thin layer of paper. The jury acquitted the accused.

The ex-Mayor's Grievance.

At a meeting of the Taunton Town Council on December 11, Alderman W. A. Wrenn, chemist and druggist, who was Mayor of the Borough last year, referred to the fact that he was passed over for the office of deputy-mayor, which he considered "a caddish insult." The Mayor (Mr. A. E. Perkins) said Mr. Wrenn told him he was going to India. It was entirely in the province of the Mayor to appoint his deputy, and Mr. Wrenn was brooding over some imaginary grievance.

Debt-cases.

At the Westminster City Court on December 17, Judge Horton Smith, K.C., had before him the case of Rideal v. Ingram, in which the plaintiff, a consulting chemist, sought to enforce payment of a judgment-debt of 45*l*. due to him from the defendant, whom he employed to publish a book on chemistry. An order was made directing the defendant to pay 45*l*. in a month, or, in default, to go to Holloway for twelve days.—In the case of Cook v. Richards an order was made for payment in fourteen days. The debtor was described as a chemist, carrying on business at Battersea Park Road, but said he was only manager.—In the case of Archer v. Gordon, in which the debtor was described as the inventor of a cure for diseases of the skin, an order was made for judgment in a month, subject to committal for twelve days in default.—On the same day, in the case of

Hampton v. Wayte, it was stated that the defendant was an assistant to a good firm of West-end chemists, and was well able to pay the debt, which was for books on chemistry. An order for payment in a month was made, subject to committal to Holloway for twelve days in default.

Hospital Matron v. Medical Superintendent.

A three days' libel action, in which the plaintiff was Miss Elizabeth Martin, Sheffield, and the defendant Richard G. Allen, M.R.C.S., L.R.O.P., occupied the attention of Mr. Justice Grantham and a special jury at the Leeds Assizes at the end of last week. The leading counsel in the case were Mr. E. Tindal Atkinson, K.C., for the plaintiff, and Mr. Scott-Fox, K.C., for the defendant. The action was a re-trial, the case being removed to Leeds, owing to the strong feeling at Belper in reference to it, and on the occasion of the original trial at Leeds Assizes the jury disagreed. Miss Martin was last year matron at Belper Isolation Hospital, where the defendant was medical superintendent. Friction arose between herself and Dr. Allen in consequence of her calling attention to his conduct with some of the nurses. The defendant wrote to the committee stating that the plaintiff was absolutely unfitted for her position. This letter contained the libel complained of, the matron ultimately being dismissed. Much evidence was called, and the plaintiff was awarded 100%, and costs of the abortive trial.

Fire.

On December 11 a fire occurred at the shop of Mr. Phelps, chemist and stationer, 126 Barrow Road, Barton Hill, Bristol. Some goods in the window came in contact with the gas-light, but the flames were soon extinguished. The shop-window and contents were severely damaged by fire, smoke, and water, and a plate-glass window was broken by the heat.

Poisoning Cases.

The deaths from poison which have been investigated during the past week include one from prussic acid at Smethwick, the victim being a man of 57. A man of the same age at Coventry ended his life with spirit of salt, and a Deptford woman (55) used the same poison. Two persons have accidentally poisoned themselves with laudanum, and two young women have committed suicide with oxalic acid. A young man (19), who was a passenger on the *Scot*, accidentally took a dose of mercuric chloride solution in mistake for another medicine, and died in Southampton two days afterwards. One carbolic-acid death is reported in London, and from Canterbury we hear of the death of an infirmarium-maid in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, who took "Rough on Rats," a fact known to another maid, who did not mention the matter until it was too late for effective medical treatment.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

January Examinations.—Applications for the Preliminary and Pharmaceutical Licence examinations should be lodged not later than December 24; for the Pharmaceutical Assistant and Registered Druggist examinations not later than 11 o'clock on the mornings of December 30 and 31 respectively.

Contracts.

The Governors of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Donnybrook, Dublin, have made the following contracts for the ensuing year: Drugs and medicines, Messrs. P. A. Leslie & Co., chemists; surgical appliances, Messrs. Fannin & Co. (Limited); general chandlery, Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson (Limited), pharmacists; all of Dublin.

Fungicides.

Professor T. Johnson, at the meeting of the Royal Dublin Society on November 20, gave the results of experiments

made in Ireland in the prevention of smut (*Ustilago avenae*, Jens.) in oats. The fungicides used were potassium sulphide, copper sulphate, formalin alone and followed by ammonia, and a fungicide called "sar" (consisting mainly of sodium sulphide), recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture. "Sar" Professor Johnson found best.

The Cork School.

At the last meeting of the Cork Technical Instruction Committee, Mr. E. O'Keeffe, headmaster, informed the committee that the Pharmaceutical Society now recognised the teaching of chemistry at the Technical Institute. Mr. George Crosbie said this recognition has been anxiously looked forward to by the leading chemists and druggists in Cork. Mr. Lester had called upon him, and told him he had lost an excellent assistant in his establishment owing to the non-recognition of the Institute by the Pharmaceutical Society.

Christmas in the Shops.

The *Sligo Independent* reporter has been the round of the local shops to see what there is on offer for Christmas presents. Of Mr. P. N. White's business he says "unless you saw it you would not believe so large a business could be done in any town in the West of Ireland." At Boyers' Medical Hall the special feature is "the display of perfumery pretty silk-lined and leatherette-covered caskets, closely rivalling one another in completeness and beauty, elegance and usefulness"; whilst at Denning's Medical Hall the mineral-water factory "continues still to the front, and those who talk of supporting home industries cannot do better than to give their patronage to this—the most enjoyable of temperance drinks." Perhaps Mr. Denning would rather his customers did not drink his factory.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Changes.

Roberts & Co., chemists and druggists, have acquired the business of Mr. J. Fernie, chemist, Tayport.

Mr. J. M. Patton, chemist and druggist, has resigned his appointment as sub-postmaster of the Victoria Road post-office, Torry.

The business of the late Mr. A. Orichton, chemist, Junction Street, Leith, has been sold to Mr. James Skinner, chemist, lately with Duncan, Flockhart, Powell & Co., Leith.

Mr. J. M. Patton, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business so long carried on by Mr. James Sim at Bridge Street, Aberdeen. All accounts against Mr. Sim should be sent to Edmonds & Ledingham, 1 Golden Square, Aberdeen, advocates.

Notices to Creditors.

Claims against the late Mr. James Decker, chemist, 491 Victoria Road, Crosshill, Glasgow, should be rendered forthwith to Messrs. Brock & Ballantine, 95 Bath Street, Glasgow.

Isidore Cyprian Noronha, Strathspey Pharmacy, Orailachie, Banffshire, has granted a trust deed for behoof of his creditors, and Messrs. Kemp & Auchinachie, solicitors Aberdeen, Strathspey, are agents for the trustee.

Science in the Highland Capital.

A new science and art laboratory erected in the grounds of the High Public School, Inverness, was formally opened on December 11. The building is of iron, and has cost about 1,000%. It contains physical and chemical laboratories, science-lecture rooms, art-rooms, and a room for machine-building construction. The headmaster is Mr. J. M. Lowson, M.A., B.Sc., whose text-book on botany is known to pharmaceutical students. Many of the local chemists' apprentices and assistants attend the evening classes at this school.

Instructions to the Food Inspectors.

In view of recent complaints the Local Government Board in a circular note to local authorities in Scotland suggests that sampling-officers under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts should be instructed to confine themselves to articles sold or offered for sale when taking samples for analysis, and when transmitting samples should make known to the analyst all marks, statements or declarations on labels, packages, tins, bottles, &c., and also any statement made by the vendor at the time of sale bearing on the quality of the article.

Perth Chemists' Assistants.

A supper of the Perth chemists' assistants and apprentices took place in the Palace Restaurant, Perth, on Tuesday, Mr. George Thomson presiding. Mr. Ralph Wilson, in proposing the toast of "Chemists' Assistants and Apprentices," suggested the formation of an association for Perth and Perthshire. Mr. Milne replied for the assistants, and Mr. Dow for the apprentices.

Saccharin Claims.

At Dundee on Wednesday, December 11, before Sheriff Campbell Smith, the record was closed in an action at the instance of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited), 165 Queen Victoria Street, London, against Max Taulsen, merchant, 62 Commercial Street, Dundee, in which they seek to interdict defender and his servants from selling or dealing in saccharin or any compound having the properties of saccharin, and claim 500% in respect of loss and damage sustained by them by defender's alleged breach of their patent. Defender alleges that the patent expired on June 1, 1899, and denies the allegations.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

TUNISIAN OLIVE OIL.—The *Journal Officiel* for November 30 contains the text of a decree fixing at 20,000,000 kilos. the quantity of olive oil of Tunisian production which may be imported into France free of duty, during the twelve months ending November 30, 1902.

SEA-SICKNESS.—The French League against Sea-sickness has published a guide on this subject by Dr. Madeuf. Indications are given for prevention and cure of *mal de mer*. The league collected a large amount of information on the subject, from which the present guide has been compiled. It is published at 3f.

"**LA SEMAINE PHARMACEUTIQUE**" is the title of a new journal of pharmacy, to appear every Sunday, the first number of which has just been published. It is the first weekly journal connected with pharmacy in France. The Editor is M. P. Hubault, and his object appears to be to produce a trade journal something on the same lines as THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

A PHARMACIST ON THE "ENTENTE CORDIALE."—At the annual banquet of the British Chamber of Commerce held here last week, Dr. Armand Fumouze, a well-known manufacturing pharmacist, and President of the Paris Chamber of Commerce, replied to the toast for the French guests. He referred to the reception given by his chamber last year to the delegates of the British Associated Chambers of Commerce on the occasion of their visit to Paris during the Exhibition, and said he should never forget the striking manifestations of friendship between the two countries that took place. Differences of opinion certainly exist, and it can scarcely be otherwise when the merchants of England and France are engaged in friendly commercial rivalry all over the world. It is almost a matter for surprise that such differences are not more frequent.

THE GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF FRENCH PHARMACISTS.—At the last meeting of the committee of this Association M. Crinon, the general secretary, announced that at the invitation of the Swiss Society of Pharmacy he had attended the general meeting of that body at Montreux, where he was most cordially received, and he hoped that regular com-

munications would in future be kept up between the two societies. M. Crinon also announced that a number of grocers had been recently prosecuted with success for illegal practice of pharmacy. The most noteworthy of these was an action brought at Marennes by the Syndicate of Pharmacists of the Charente Inférieure against nine grocers of that district, who had dépôts of drugs and medicines in their shops. They were fined 500f. (20%) and the pharmacist who supplied them 1,200f. (48%) fine and damages, the pharmacist's partner having also to pay 600f. (24%). The committee of the Association also discussed the question of co-operative pharmacies, which had been mooted at the recent Congress of Mutual-aid Societies held at Limoges, and came to the conclusion that the Government could not interfere in a question of prices in pharmacy any more than in any other trade.

South African News.

(From our Colonial Correspondents.)

REOPENED.—Mr. T. Martlew, chemist and druggist, has reopened his pharmacy in Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

A LICENCE has been issued authorising Mr. Herbert Potter, chemist and druggist, Great Britain, 1900, to practise as a chemist and druggist in Cape Colony.

THE BLOEMFONTEIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has approached the Government, and negotiations are now in progress for an improvement in the method of importing civil supplies.

FROM LORENÇO MARQUES.—On November 20 five cases of bubonic plague were reported at Magund, about forty miles from Delagoa, but the port has not been declared infected up to the time of writing.

ANTI-LOCUST.—The farmers in the neighbourhood of Bloemfontein have had several thousand tubes of "locust fungus" distributed amongst them by the Government, and it is being used with good effect on the swarms.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.—The usual council-meeting was held in the Pharmacy-board rooms on November 21, there being present Mr. J. A. Mathew (President), Mr. F. W. C. Thomas, Mr. Geo. Darroll, Mr. W. Fick, Mr. A. J. Rivett, Mr. W. H. Helmore (of Kimberley), Mr. J. S. North, and the Secretary (Mr. F. Nisbet). The ordinary business of the meeting was transacted, and Mr. Fick gave notice of motion as follows:—"That the Society take such action as may be deemed necessary, regarding the acceptance of foreign diplomas, by the Pharmacy Board." This was all the business.

THE CHARGE AGAINST W. H. KERR.—A Laffan cable from Bloemfontein on December 11 states that the trial of William Henry Kerr, chemist and druggist, chief dispenser to the refugee-camp at Bloemfontein, has concluded with his acquittal. It will be remembered that Mr. Kerr was accused of improperly dispensing a preparation of strychnine so as to cause the death of three children of refugees (see *C. & D.*, November 30, page 870). After an inquiry lasting a week the accused was discharged. The most stringent regulations are in force in reference to medicines, doctors, and nurses to prevent any mistake in the future.

EXAMINATION.—The bi-annual examination and usual meeting of the Colonial Pharmacy Board was held on November 13 and 14 in their rooms, Hofmeyr Chambers, Cape Town. The following members were present, and constituted the Examining Board: Mr. J. A. Mathew (President), Mr. F. W. C. Thomas, Mr. Geo. Darroll, Mr. W. H. Helmore, and Mr. A. Walsh. Two candidates presented themselves for examination, and one only, Mr. W. Cherry, succeeded in satisfying the examiners. Four papers were set on the first day—viz., chemistry and pharmacy (for which two hours each were allowed), and materia medica and botany (one hour each), whilst the *viva-voce* examination was held on the following morning.

THE CHEMIST'S DEATH.—In last week's issue (page 946) brief mention was made of a disastrous fire which occurred

in the Fordsburg establishment of Messrs. B. G. Lennon & Co., chemists, and through which the manager, Mr. David Milne, lost his life. From further information we learn that the fire occurred in a double-storey building, consisting of two shops tenanted respectively by Messrs. Lennon and a boot company, with residential chambers above. A detective who happened to be passing on the opposite side of the street at the time, noticed what resembled a flash of lightning inside the shop, and this was instantly followed by a dense volume of smoke and a report. He promptly summoned the fire-brigade, while the district police visited the chambers upstairs, and satisfied themselves that all the residents were safe. As Messrs. Lennon's shop was closed and shuttered, they had no reason to suppose that there was anybody inside, and refrained from forcing an entrance lest the introduction of a strong air-current would increase the fire and endanger neighbouring properties. Once the fire was got under control a gruesome discovery was made. Against the front, near the window, lay the remains of a man charred beyond all recognition. It was only by the waistcoat that a stepson of the deceased manager was able to identify the body as that of Mr. Milne. Deceased, who had been in the employment of Messrs. Lennon for the last seven years, was about 37 years of age, and leaves a wife and three children, who are at present refugees residing in Durban. The general belief is that he was overcome by fumes or faintness while in the act of making his escape on discovering the outbreak. The prescription-hook was the only book left intact, the safe stood open, and on the floor lay the drawer of the cash-box, containing coin to the amount of a few pounds. At the inquest, which took place on November 21, William Perkins, dispenser to the I.M.R., stated that on the night before the fire he had assisted Mr. Milne with some dispensing and with the checking of some goods that had just arrived from Cape Town. While so engaged a customer came in and asked for a bottle of burning-fluid, which Mr. Milne promised to send first thing in the morning. The burning-fluid was not kept on the premises but in a warehouse at the back, and witness's theory was that deceased accidentally spilt some of the fluid which became accidentally ignited. The Magistrate found that Mr. Milne met his death through burning, and that it was impossible to say how the fire originated. Mr. David Milne served his apprenticeship with Mr. Davidson, chemist, High Street, Montrose, Scotland. He was an assistant in Yorkshire and at Cork, leaving the latter place for Durban, S.A. He had been in Johannesburg and Fordsburg during the past eight years with Messrs. Lennon (Limited). He was a Royal Arch Mason and the sitting Master of the Abercorn Lodge. A genial, popular gentleman at all times, he will be much missed in Fordsburg. Mr. Milne held the rank of quartermaster-sergeant in the 1st Battalion of the Rand Rifles, and he was accorded a military funeral in the Johannesburg Cemetery on November 17.

East Indian News.

SOVEREIGNS and half-sovereigns have been made legal tender in Ceylon.

MR. R. PANTLING, Deputy Superintendent, Cinchona Plantation, Mungpoo, Bengal, has been appointed to act as Government Quinologist during the absence on leave of Major D. Prain, I.M.S.

MESSRS. ABID & Co., of Hyderabad, write to inform us that Mr. W. Cooper was an assistant in their pharmacy, which is merely a portion of their establishment. They think that a paragraph in the *C. & D.*, of November 2, suggests that he was manager of the whole business, which was certainly not intended.

CEYLON PRODUCTS.—In his annual report on Ceylon for 1900, Sir J. West Ridgeway remarks that cardamoms are being more extensively cultivated from year to year, but a considerable fall in price is to be anticipated. Cinnamon has also declined in value. The same remark applies to citronella oil, and it now barely pays to cultivate the grass. The camphor-plant has succeeded well in many districts, and a series of distillation-experiments yielded fairly promising results.

A NEW BOTANICAL PUBLICATION.—Mr. J. C. Willis, director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya Colombo, has initiated a new journal, which will be known as *Annals of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya*. The first number is entirely written by Mr. Willis, and contains two articles—viz., the Royal Botanic Gardens of Ceylon and their History, and the Gardens as a Centre for Botanical Study and Research. The latter article describes life in Ceylon, cost of living, climatic conditions, &c. The "Annals" will appear at irregular intervals and contributions on botanical subjects are invited.

COCAINE IN BENGAL.—At the instance of the Bengal Government five men and women were recently fined at Calcutta various sums, ranging from 40r. to 20r., for selling cocaine without a licence. In regard to the restrictions placed on the consumption of cocaine by the Bengal Government, the *Indian Medical Record* is of opinion that they will not meet with success, inasmuch as the *Erythroxylon Coca* grows abundantly in the Terai forest of Northern India from the extreme north-west to the new China frontier. Prohibition would therefore stimulate exploitation, while at the same time the method of extracting the drug is so simple that it could be carried out with little fear of detection by the Excise authorities. The fresh leaves chewed, either alone or mixed with pān, have as much effect as cocaine while the slight *soupgon* of chunam (lime) combined with them appears to counteract the after-prostration following over-indulgence in opium, at least among the hillmen who use it.

Colonial and Foreign News.

A NEW ARMY PHARMACOPOEIA (Militär pharmakopoë) is to follow the new Swedish Pharmacopœia recently published. A committee has been appointed to compile it.

FIRE.—A fire broke out on December 5 in the Schwarzlose Drug-warehouse at Berlin. The fire-brigade soon got the flames under, but the smoke was very dense, and owing to the burning of several hundredweight of snuff, the smoke caused an intolerable irritation in the noses and throats of the firemen and of passers-by and people in the houses around.

NOBEL PRIZES.—At Stockholm on Tuesday, December 10, four Nobel prizes, each of the value of 208,000f., were awarded in presence of royalty. The prize for medicine was awarded to Dr. Emil Adolf Behring, Halle; for chemistry, to Professor Jacobus Hendrikus Hoff, Berlin; for physics, to Professor Wilhelm Konrad Röntgen, Munich; and for literature, to M. Sully Prud'homme.

THE ELIMINATION OF THE MOSQUITO.—A letter has been received in Liverpool by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, from Havana, stating that, as a result of the anti-mosquito campaign in Cuha, Havana has, for the first time since 1762, been free from yellow fever, and that malaria has decreased more than half. It is estimated that mosquitoes have decreased 90 per cent. more than last year.

CHEMIST v. BOTANIST.—Dr. Morris, Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture in the West Indies, stated some time ago that the British Guiana hinterland contains enormous areas of the richest land to be found in the tropics. Professor Harrison, Government analyst, British Guiana, who knows the country intimately, says this is all nonsense; the agricultural prospects of the interior are the very opposite of encouraging.

THE NEW GERMAN TARIFF.—Among certain alterations in the rates of duty originally proposed by the draft Tariff Bill occur the following:—Phosphorus, red (amorphous): original rate, 20m. per 100 kilos.; reduced rate, 10m. per 100 kilos. Phosphorus, yellow: original rate, 15m. per 100 kilos.; reduced rate, 5m. per 100 kilos. Linseed oil: original rate, 6m. per 100 kilos.; reduced rate, 4m. per 100 kilos. Sesame oil (if rendered unfit for consumption), original rate, 10m. per 100 kilos.; reduced rate, 5m. per 100 kilos.

Winter Session.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Association was held on December 10, at the Royal Institution, the President (Mr. Harold Wyatt, jun.) occupying the chair. The meeting had been called with the object of giving the members an opportunity of making the acquaintance of Dr. Jokichi Takamine, F.C.S., who delivered an address upon "The Digestive Ferments and the Active Principle of the Suprarenal Gland."

Dr. TAKAMINE described his experiments in isolating the digestive ferment produced in the fermentation of rice, illustrating his remarks with a series of lantern-views showing the various microscopic organisms in different stages of growth. He had now been able to separate the beneficial germ, which was readily cultivated upon a base composed of wheat-bran. As soon as it was washed out with sterilised water it was treated with spirit, causing the ferment to be precipitated in the form of a stable compound, to which he had given the name of taka-diastase. It has been alleged by some that the Eastern mind is incapable of appreciating humour, but the lecturer in this case somewhat startled his audience by telling the story of a certain digestive ferment which had been discovered in the following way: A hunter in Japan, who had been wandering in the hills, came across a huge snake which was in the process of attacking and swallowing a man. When the process had been completed, and the snake was considerably distended after its somewhat abnormal meal, the hunter saw the reptile proceed to a certain patch of grass, which it consumed freely, and to his astonishment he saw that the bulging sides of the snake were rapidly reduced until they had assumed their normal proportions. The hunter, realising that he had made a great discovery, at once went to the patch of grass, secured a quantity, and then retraced his steps to the city. Having reached a restaurant, he ordered a liberal supply of rice-cakes, which were at once consumed, and calls made for a further supply of the cakes. This was continued until the hunter's friends besought him to stop, otherwise the results might be disastrous. Finally, realising that he had reached the limit of his gastronomic capacity, he proceeded to demonstrate his power to digest the food, and swallowed a lot of the grass. The result, however, was entirely unexpected, because in a few minutes a pile of rice-cakes was seen on one of the chairs, and the man was nowhere to be seen, the fact being that the man had discovered a powerful flesh-solvent which had not touched the farinaceous food. The conclusion of this story was greeted with hearty laughter, the telling of it having been much enhanced by the quaintness of the narrator's language. The latter part of the lecture dealt with the researches made in connection with the suprarenal gland, which led to the discovery of adrenalin.

At the conclusion of his address Dr. Takamine exhibited a large number of exquisite photographic slides, illustrating scenery, life, and customs of Japan. The photographs, which had been taken by Japanese photographers and coloured by Japanese artists, were lucidly explained by the lecturer, whose views upon the screen and racy description were frequently applauded during the evening.

THE PRESIDENT, in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said they were delighted to have the opportunity of listening to a representative of the nation which had made such extraordinary strides during the past few years, and he trusted this would not be the last occasion on which they would have the pleasure of listening to Dr. Takamine.

Mr. WARDLEWORTH, in seconding the vote of thanks, said the great benefit which they were deriving that night was due to the fact that they were able to see the advantage of bringing minds capable of looking at things from different standpoints upon questions which were perplexing the Western minds, and he trusted that the bond of sympathy and fraternal regard which prevailed at present between Great Britain and Japan would be deepened and enlarged as the years went on.

Dr. SYMES, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. SHACKLADY supported the vote of thanks, which was carried with acclamation.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on December 11, Mr. J. G. Sclater (President) in the chair.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved, after which Mr. D. B. DOTT read the following papers:—

THE B.P.C. FORMULARY.

Perhaps the Unofficial Formulary is most interesting, Mr. Dott said, as showing what pharmacists can do on their own initiative, and when acting without instructions from the medical profession. The result is a very useful minor Pharmacopœia, possibly as much open to criticism as the official Red-book.

The following are the chief points of Mr. Dott's criticisms:—

Acid. Hydrocyanic. (Scheele).—Seems superfluous to give a process for preparing this, but well to have the strength settled.

Acid. Hydrofluoricum Dilutum.—No directions or tests are given, which seems inconsistent.

Acid. Hypophosphorosum.—By the same general method has obtained a good result. The ordinary acid of pharmacy always contains calcium salt, which is sometimes objectionable.

Caffeine Hydrobrom. Effervescent.—No definition of caffeine hydrobromide is given, but presumably the normal salt is intended. This is a very feeble compound. After granulation with heat, it is safe to assume that the hydrobromic acid has gone into combination as sodium bromide.

Chloral Camphoratum.—Appears to be a very strong preparation, and it is questionable if it is really better than chloroform liniment.

Chloroformum Belladonnae.—The powdered root said to yield as much alkaloid without the preliminary treatment with ammonia and drying. A similar preparation could probably have been produced by dissolving a little atropine in chloroform.

Collodium Belladonnae.—A more sensible preparation name than *Emplastrum belladonnae fluidum*. May be made equally well from the ordinary alcoholic extract, but has not then the green colour.

Collodium Stypticum.—Surely rectified spirit might take the place of absolute alcohol.

Elixir Guaranæ.—This drug yields its properties to water, but possibly spirit is used to leave the saponin behind.

Emplastrum Belladonnae Viride.—Mainly interesting as being half the strength of the B.P. plaster. Can a man sell this without risk of being fined? Perhaps he will be all right if he calls it "B.P.C."

Emulsio Petrolei cum Hypophosphitibus soon separates.

Extractum Belladonnae Folii Alcoholic.—The process of assay (that of Mr. Bird) is given in elaborate detail. If perfect uniformity is wanted the principle is sound.

Extractum Cascara Sag. Liquid. Insuper.—Seems scarcely worth while inserting a formula for this. If really rendered tasteless the purgative properties are much impaired, and the name *cascara sagrada* becomes a misnomer.

Extractum Malti.—No fault can be found with the process. The requirement for diastatic strength is reasonable, but thought too much importance is attached to diastase in malt extract, as the acids of the stomach probably destroy it. The test for salicylic acid might have been omitted. There are other strong antiseptics which give no reaction with ferric chloride. Besides, there is no harm in adding a minute proportion of salicylic acid: it is probably the safest and best of all antiseptics.

Extractum Sennæ Leguminorum Liq.—Does not think so much alcohol is necessary in making this preparation. Throughout the B.P.C. Formulary there is a prodigality in the use of alcohol.

Hydrastinum.—Agreed with Mr. Maben that a stronger spirit (70-per-cent.) should be used in making this substance.

Infusum Digitalis Concentratum.—Doubted the wisdom of including concentrated preparations in the Pharmacopœia, but B.P.C. is right in making the preparations 1 to 7.

Infusum Gentianæ Comp. Concent.—Method given is sufficient to extract the gentian, but not the orange and lemon peels.

Iridinum.—Prepared in this way iridin is exceedingly hygroscopic. Ought to be some addition to bring the powdering and dispensing of the article within the department of practical pharmacy.

Liquor Bromo-chloral. Compositus.—Bromo-chloral is not correct. This preparation is presumably meant to imitate "bromidia." If so, it is not so strong as it should be.

Liquor Ferri Hypophosphitis Fortis.—Name does not indicate whether the salt is ferrous or ferric, and it is doubtful whether the salt dissolved with citric acid and ammonia is really present as ferric hypophosphite.

Mistura Bismuthi Composita.—Certain to deposit more or less. It does not strike one as a happy thought to add hydro-

cyanic acid to any ammoniacal solution or strychnine to an alkaline metallic liquor.

Syrupus Glycerophosphatum Compositus.—Cudbear is not a success as a colouring—too liable to be bleached.

Syrupus Hypophosph. Compositus.—An improvement on the older formula in so far as the "strong solution of ferric hypophosphite" must make the syrup less liable to deposit.

Tinctura Antiperiodica.—As the synonym "Warburg's Tincture" is given, it may be necessary to adhere to the accepted formula, but a prescription containing nineteen items is unusual in these days. Still, as Warburg's shot-gun contains 6 gr. of aloes and 4 gr. of quinine in a full dose, the preparation has no doubt its own value. Perhaps the whole 6 gr. of aloes does not pass into solution, as aloin is known to combine with lime, and this formula contains chalk in its process of maceration.

Tinctura Chloroformi Composita.—One of several superfluities.

Tinctura Zingiberis Fortior.—Might be better to make this eight times the strength of the B.P. tincture.

Unquenum Hydrargyri Mitius.—This semi-official formula should surely soften the heart of a presiding magistrate when he has before him the criminal who has sold it.

Vinum Xericum Detannatum.—It is more expeditious to add a strong solution of gelatin.

Mr. Dott suggested the inclusion of formulæ for liquid extract of malt and some other resinoids than hydrastin and iridin. Speaking of the alcohol-strengths of the B.P., he said there has been considerable exaggeration as to the necessity for using a particular strength of spirit for certain drugs. The other paper by Mr. Dott was on

THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA AS A STANDARD.

In this he said certain public analysts seem as determined as ever to employ the B.P. as a standard in a way which was never intended, and they have sometimes succeeded in obtaining decisions which are manifestly unfair. Mr. Dott went on to contend that unless there is a *prima-facie* case of fraud or of very culpable carelessness there ought to be no prosecution, to say nothing of a conviction. A great deal too much has been made of the mercury-ointment case. In the first place it is not a finally authoritative decision of the law as it stands. Secondly, it only declares that an offence was committed because in that particular case the purchaser should have been understood as demanding the B.P. article. There is no new principle established or anything like it. Among the most contemptible prosecutions, Mr. Dott said, were those for deficient boric-acid ointment. Considering that the boric acid is liable to settle, that the apparent deficiency is slight, that the acid has little pharmacological activity, and, above all, that the acid costs less than the excipient, this prosecution might well have been left alone.

In regard to Professor Tichborne's remarks on the reducing action of ext. cascara sag. liq. on Fehling's solution, to decide that an extract of cascara has been adulterated with glucose or the like because it reduces more Fehling's solution than usual, seems rather a rash conclusion. Solutions of cascara sagrada are very liable to a kind of fermentation, and it is probable that a fermented solution will reduce more "Fehling" than an unfermented extract. It is pleasing to note that Professor Tichborne, like most fair-minded men, favours the right of appeal to Somerset House. The ferocious analysts are all against it. Though the criticisms of Dr. Power and others have been in many cases hypercritical, there is no doubt a certain amount of slipshod about the B.P. If it is to be taken as a standard for analysts it should first receive a very careful revision. Regarding spirit of nitrous ether, Mr. Dott added that the whole history of the subject indicates strongly that the standard should be altered to 25 c.c. nitric oxide, or a minimum of 18 c.c. being liberated from 5 c.c. of the spirit. The strength of liquor ethyl nitrit. could be retained as at present, and ordered when the stronger preparation is desired.

Mr. HILL, in seconding a vote of thanks proposed by the Chairman, said he thought there was no escape from the conclusion that the B.P. was the statutory standard for any substance named therein when intended for medicinal use. The Pharmacy Act made that inevitable, but there was no justifiable ground for making it a standard when the substance was not sold for medicinal use. It might be necessary, for instance, to insist on a high standard of purity in cream of tartar when intended for medicinal use, but not when

used in baking-powder or confectionery. He thought many of the prosecutions, which, curiously enough, were much commoner in England than in Scotland, were an entire abuse of the Food and Drugs Acts. The vinegar, linseed-meal, camphorated-oil, and methylated-soap liniment cases were all in that category. These Acts were intended to protect the public against palpable, injurious, and fraudulent adulterations and substitutions in foods and medicines, and not as an excuse for ingenious analysts and inspectors harassing honourable traders for harmless and trivial deviations from a rigid standard not called for by any considerations of public safety, and never dreamt of by the Legislature.

Mr. DUNCAN said chemists had themselves to blame to a large extent for many of the prosecutions of which they complained. It would be remembered that, as the result of an agitation against the sale of such things as paregoric sine opio, there was introduced into the Pharmacopœia of 1885 a number of synonyms for articles in common use, which led to sellers being compelled to supply the B.P. article although sometimes it was not what a customer really wanted. With regard to sweet spirit of nitre, he thought there was no excuse for any chemist who sold it under the B.P. standard. They knew it was a perishable article, just as milk was, and they ought to satisfy themselves that it was correct before vending it to the public. He thought the objection to the use of a solution of gelatin to detannate wine was that if there was more gelatin than was required to remove the tannin it was apt to remain in solution in the wine. That did not happen when the sheet gelatin was used.

The vote of thanks was passed with acclamation, and the meeting closed.

Edinburgh and District Chemists' Trade Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Thursday, December 12, Mr. George Lunan (Chairman) presiding. Our telegraphic report was, owing to the storm, received too late for inclusion in our last issue.

Mr. LUNAN, in the course of his remarks, touched upon the more prominent topical subjects, such as the General Medical Council and doctors' shops and early closing.

The SECRETARY (Mr. C. F. Henry) read a communication from the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations, in which the Association was asked to consider the advisability of becoming affiliated to the Federation. This was discussed, Mr. BOA stating that on a previous occasion they were unanimously of opinion that they should not become affiliated because they did not see what good it was to do to them or anyone else. The SECRETARY, on the other hand, pointed out that if action required to be taken in any matter it was the Federation which initiated it. Ultimately it was agreed to delay coming to a decision till next meeting.

THE APPRENTICE DIFFICULTY.

Mr. WM. GLASS opened a discussion on this question by a paper in which he said it could not be denied that there was a scarcity in Scotland of eligible lads willing to become trained pharmacists. This scarcity was not altogether confined to the drug-trade, for he found that drapers, hosiers, and stationers were in a similar difficulty. The lads were largely swallowed up in engineering-works—electrical engineering appealing especially to the average boy leaving school. The long hours or late hours in pharmacy, combined with the difficulty of examination and the expense of classes necessary to qualify, are the chief hindrances to lads entering it. He touched upon the new Preliminary examination, the remuneration given to apprentices and assistants, and other phases of the question; but his only solution of the difficulty appeared to be the employment of girls, whom he had found to be better servants than boys are.

Mr. McNAB said his experience in a mining-district was entirely different from that of town chemists. The offer of 15s. right away for a start was a strong inducement for a boy to go down a pit rather than go into a shop. Sometimes he got a farmer's son for an apprentice, but the

endency was for boys to be educated in Edinburgh, and then they became electrical engineers, or took up some other business in town. He had great difficulty in getting apprentices long before the difficulty cropped up in towns, and his experience was that of most people in the country, and in shipping, mining, and farming districts.

Mr. BOA emphasised Mr. Glass's remark that they were not worse off than their neighbours in other businesses, and proceeded to discuss generally the conditions of pharmaceutical apprenticeship. While deprecating the employment of apprentices as a means of cheap labour, he advocated that when an apprentice is employed he should be given plenty to do, for the more he had to do the better it was for himself afterwards. If he had little to do, he got into habits which were distinctly to his disadvantage. Mr. BOA did not think they should entertain the idea of going back to the old Preliminary examination. If they took the case of one of themselves, he was afraid a good many of them were beginning to find that the preliminary education they had to acquire if they were beginning their apprenticeship was scarcely sufficient for their necessities. (Applause.) He thought the hours-question would have to be settled ere long.

Mr. JOHN BOWMAN next spoke, stating that in Leith it is almost impossible to get apprentices principally on account of the long hours of the business. He was followed by Mr. McBEAN, who has been trying for three years to get an apprentice—so far, unsuccessfully. The conversation was continued by Mr. MASON, Mr. BRINDLE, Mr. CURRIE, and Mr. C. F. HENRY.

The CHAIRMAN, in summing up, said his experience was that they could not train apprentices properly without keeping them steadily at work. He thought the late hours were an objection against securing apprentices. He was very glad that the Association had shown itself so firm in favour of the raising of the standard being the right thing.

Mr. GLASS then replied, his remarks again giving rise to a conversation on the employment of women in pharmacy. This was all the business.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

AT a meeting of this Association, held at 73 Newman Street, W., on December 12, at which Mr. A. Latreille presided, Mr. GEORGE ROE read a paper on

LOTIO HYDRARGYRI NIGRA.

The black mercurial lotion of the 1898 Pharmacopœia, said Mr. Roe, has been the subject of much adverse criticism, because the mercurous oxide has a tendency to clot with the tragacanth, especially if kept for some time. Duncan drew attention to this fact in 1898, and suggested a return to the old formula. The speaker finds the clotting is more pronounced at one time than another, and on that account sometimes gives a bad impression to those who prescribe and use it. From a pharmaceutical point of view a preparation which clots cannot be called an elegant one, but whether this interferes with its therapeutic action he could not say. In a previous note Duncan has also stated that, in the clear fluid above the oxide, he has found mercuric chloride, and he thought it possible that the antiseptic properties of the lotion might be due to this. If the new lotion clots so much that, as had been contended, little of the oxide reaches the wound, does it not prove that Duncan's theory was correct? It is a matter for surprise that an important statement of this kind has not raised criticism, and it is certainly true that, with the old formula, little of the oxide usually reaches the part to which the lotion is applied, owing to the rapidity with which it sinks to the bottom of the containing vessel. The fact, however, remains that, generally speaking, "lotio nigra" is a very useful preparation, and seems to answer the purpose of the prescriber. The tragacanth has been added to keep the oxide in suspension, so that each portion of the lotion used shall contain, as nearly as possible, the proper proportion, which is especially important when the lotion is used as a gargle. It is well known that tragacanth differs very much in quality, and if two samples are used it is not unusual to find that one makes a thick lotion, while the other would be of considerably thinner consistency, but this probably does not

affect the medical properties of the "black wash." An objection to the tragacanth is that when the lotion is applied on lint, it has a tendency to make the lint adhere to the wound, and when applied with cotton-wool to bathe the affected part, it sticks on the wool instead of getting on the skin. This difficulty is overcome, in part, by the addition of glycerin, which keeps the material moist and prevents oxidation.

The old and new formulæ present certain differences when they come to be applied. When the new "lotio nigra" is used to bathe a wound with, say, lint, the manner in which it clots with the tragacanth causes it to adhere to the material so that little of the oxide reaches the affected part. This cannot be said of the old lotion, but the advantage is counterbalanced by the fact that with the old formula the oxide settles before it can be used. The superiority of the present lotion is, however, apparent when it is applied on lint or wool: the oxide remains on the surface as a black, soft film, which gives the mercurous oxide every opportunity of accomplishing its purpose. On the other hand, with the old lotion, in which tragacanth is absent, the oxide seems to pass through the material used, or, at any rate, it leaves the surface clear.

Mr. ROE finds that the new lotion has admirable keeping properties, and exhibited a sample made some months previously. For purposes of comparison he purchased seven samples of calomel from different sources, and members noticed that the freshly prepared lotion did not differ from that made some time ago.

A discussion followed, in which Messrs. LATREILLE, LOWNSBROUGH, STROTHER, and FFOULKES joined; and Mr. ROE, in dealing with the points raised, added that one sample of calomel used made a lotion which was black when first made, but turned quite brown in a few days. When made with the addition of a little glycerin, however, it retained its black colour. He always uses mucilage of tragacanth, and has found the Pharmacopœia method the best. Some calomel is white and some yellow, and he has noticed that when the yellow is used the lotion is more easily made and darker in colour. The present formula cannot be said to be pharmaceutically perfect, and its improvement might form a subject for discussion at some of the preliminary meetings of the Association.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. ROE for his paper.

School of Pharmacy Students' Association.

AT the meeting held in the Lecture Theatre, 12 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on Friday evening, December 13, Mr. C. W. B. Heslop in the chair, Mr. E. T. NEATHERCOAT read a short essay on the cinchonas. He traced the history of "red bark" from the discovery of its medicinal properties down to the present day, next describing some of the different species of the genus cinchona, special attention being paid to those that are, or have been, official in the various Pharmacopœias. He then passed on to the cultivation of the trees, the methods in vogue of collecting the bark, drying and packing it for export; and afterwards dealt with the alkaloids, galenical preparations, and therapeutic properties of the drug. A statement which met with the obvious satisfaction of the large number of students present was that concerning the immense quantity of bark now produced in the Indian Empire and Ceylon. [A tenth of the world's supply.—EDITOR.] A complete collection of specimens of the bark and leaves of various kinds of cinchona was on view. Questions were asked and answered, and thanks accorded to Mr. Neathercoat, who, in the course of his reply, expressed his indebtedness to the Curator of the Museum for the loan of the specimens on the lecture-table. Some general business was then transacted.

Huddersfield Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of the above Association was held on December 11, Mr. R. C. Walshaw (the President) in the chair.

A sub-committee was appointed to make arrangements for the annual dinner to be held early in the new year. It was also decided that by way of experiment the January meeting

should be held on the second Tuesday, it being suggested that Tuesday was a more convenient evening for the majority of the members.

The meeting then continued the discussion on Mr. Walshaw's paper on "Pharmaceutical Politics" adjourned from the last meeting, but no resolution was passed owing to the position in which the proposed Pharmacy Bill is at present.

Young Chemists' Association.

THE opening meeting of this Association took place last week. A lantern lecture was given by Mr. BARRY NOBLE

on "Plant Life." Mr. J. F. WOOTTON occupied the chair, and briefly outlined the objects of the Association, which are in short to act as a sort of "mutual-improvement association" in a trade sense. There is no idea of direct examination-coaching, the syllabus now being drawn up dealing with subjects of a "shop" nature.

After the lecture the following committee of management was formed:—Messrs. W. N. Scott, W. W. Sims, R. Pickeard, and J. F.



MR. J. G. B. NOBLE.

Usher as Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Barry Noble being unanimously elected President for the coming year.

Mr. J. G. B. Noble, chemist and druggist, who has been elected President, is in business at Heaton Hall Road, Newcastle, and has offered a prize for the best examination-paper replies on a subject which has been under study during the session.

Chemists' Assistants' and Managers' Society.

THIS is the new title which the "Union" is taking. In addition to securing Lord Avebury as Honorary President of the Society, the Council proposes to appoint a select number of representatives of pharmacy as patrons. A programme for the second half of the session is in preparation, and amongst the public meetings (which, unless otherwise stated, are held in the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road) the following have been arranged:—

January 8, Smoking-concert and general meeting at 8 P.M.

January 22, at 9 P.M., Mr. C. E. Pickering on "What should Chemists' Managers' and Assistants' Salaries be?"

February 12, Smoking-concert at the Holborn Restaurant at 8.15 on behalf of the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society.

February 26, at 9 P.M., Mr. R. E. Wright on the "General Positions of Chemists' Managers and Assistants."

March 12, Dinner at the Horseshoe Hotel.

March 26, at 9 P.M., Mr. George Cullwick on "Chemists' Prices, Old and New."

We understand that the Benefit Fund scheme is making good headway, and judging from what we have heard of it, it will prove of service to chemists' assistants who wish to provide for themselves in the event of accident or sickness.

Northampton Chemists' Association.

THE monthly meeting of the Northampton Chemists' Association was held on December 13, the President (Mr. W. McKinnell) in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in accordance with notice, introduced the question of the Association approaching the chemists of other towns in Northamptonshire with a view to getting them to join the Association, and although he was afraid the

railway service would not enable country members to return home the same evening, it was eventually agreed that the Secretary should write to all the chemists of Northamptonshire suggesting to them the desirability of joining the Association.

SIDE LINES.

Mr. E. C. ASHFORD, discussing trade-matters, said it was very difficult in Northampton for the legitimate chemist to get a living, inasmuch as drapers, grocers, stationers, and others encroached in certain directions upon the business of the chemist and druggist, and the doctors generally dispensed their own prescriptions or were connected with medical dispensaries. He thought it would be profitable for the Association to consider what adjuncts to their business the chemists of the town might advantageously adopt.—Mr. F. ASHFORD said that he knew of no town in England in which so many small shops sold drugs, and he believed the standard of many of these drugs, such as spirit of nitre, would not reach the requirements of the B.P. Ultimately at the CHAIRMAN'S suggestion Mr. E. C. ASHFORD promised to bring up for discussion at the next meeting the subject of suitable adjuncts to the business of the chemist and druggist.

Cardiff Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A MEETING of the above Association was held on December 11, at the University College, Cardiff, the members turning up in full force to listen to a very interesting lecture by Mr. A. A. READ, F.I.C., F.C.S., who took for his subject the "Composition of Water." Mr. A. B. SPARROW (President of the Association) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Read for his lecture, which was carried unanimously.

Western Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Westbourne Restaurant, Paddington, on December 18. Mr. W. F. Gulliver presided.

The PRESIDENT, in his

INAUGURAL ADDRESS,

thanked the members for the honour they had conferred upon him in electing him to the presidential chair. His predecessors in office had been men well known to pharmacy and with a much wider experience of its politics and needs than he possessed. He could, however, plead that he had been a member of their committee for some years, and had some little insight into the working of the Association, and he promised to do his best. The number of new members elected that evening augured well for the success of the session, and he hoped their numbers would increase.

The speaker then dealt with the proposed Metropolitan Chemists' Association, concerning which there were one or two points to which he would like to draw their attention. Such an Association as that suggested should have for its primary object, he thought, the support of the Pharmaceutical Society, and also that registered chemists and druggists only should be eligible for membership, and that by means of local committees the Association should bring chemists together to discuss matters which affected the general welfare of the craft. Mr. Gulliver's next point had reference to the suggested alteration of the regulations governing the sale of poisons. Pharmacy, he said, was passing through a critical period, and they all awaited with considerable interest and anxiety the report of the Departmental Committee, of which Mr. Wm. Martindale was a member, appointed by the Privy Council to deal with this question. He expressed the opinion that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society had acted wisely in deciding not to proceed with their draft Pharmacy Bill until the report was issued, and hoped the outcome would be that the Government would accept the Bill of the Pharmaceutical Society or one drafted on similar lines. Reference was then made to the action of the General Medical Council as to the covering of unqualified assistants by medical men, and the address concluded with an earnest appeal to every member to make the work of the coming session successful.

Mr. ANDREWS, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Presi-

dent, whom he had known, he said, since he was a boy, stated that the question of the proposed new regulations as to the sale of poisons was very important. From reports he had read in the public press it was evident that others besides themselves were interested in the matter.

Mr. HARRINGTON seconded the proposition, and congratulated the President on the fact that they were starting the session with eleven new members.

The PRESIDENT invited a general discussion, and Mr. HARRINGTON asked the Secretary for an account of the recent annual dinner. Mr. PHILIP replied that seventy-eight persons sat down to dinner, and that everything went off very successfully. Financially there was a slight deficit of 10s. 3d.

The PRESIDENT asked Mr. Jones (Norwood) if he could give them any particulars of the meeting of the committee elected (at the recent meeting of Metropolitan chemists) to deal with the formation of the proposed Metropolitan Association, and which had met, he understood, on December 17.

Mr. JONES said it would be a breach of confidence to say exactly what had occurred, but he would say that in about a month they hoped to be ready to confer with the committee of the Western Chemists' Association, and to bring out a scheme which they hoped would meet with their approval.

The discussion then tailed off into the best way to fumigate rabbit-holes, when several interesting plans (especially to the rabbits) were advocated, and general dissatisfaction was expressed with the manner in which the Somerset House authorities are enforcing the Medicine Stamp Act.

Chemical Society.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the Fellows of this Society was held at Burlington House, W., on Thursday evening, December 12, to consider a proposal to abrogate the by-law under which the Council of the Society has power to fix the days and hours of meeting. A requisition in regard to this had been presented to the Council, and it was understood that the requisitionists, or some of them, moved on account of the Council's resolution to try Wednesday at 5.30 P.M. as the meeting hour after Christmas, in spite of the resolution of the special general meeting held in May to continue the old day and hour. There was a very large attendance.

Professor Emerson Reynolds presided, and was greeted most heartily. He asked Professor Dunstan, the senior Hon. Secretary, to read the requisition calling the meeting. This was done.

Mr. Otto Hehner opened the ball by moving a resolution to rescind the by-law. He disclaimed hostility or discourtesy to the Council or the country Fellows in so doing, and said the after-Christmas meetings were in the nature of an unscientific experiment. It was, he said, in 1857 that the present day and hour of the meeting were fixed for the convenience of Fellows who attended the Royal Society's meetings. During the past forty years other societies and even colleges have grown up and have arranged their meetings not to clash with those of the Chemical Society, so that to change the day and hour of meeting would throw all these out of gear.

Mr. Pakes, M.R.C.S., seconded the motion, claiming that the meeting was perfectly representative, upon which there came shouts of "No, no" from the platform and "Yes" from the body of the hall. Mr. Pakes maintained his point, and spoke well for a few minutes in support of Mr. Hehner's motion.

Professor Divers said very emphatically that the meeting was representative only of those who could be present on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, and many must be absent who would vote against Mr. Hehner's motion.

Professor Percy Frankland next had the ear of the meeting, and spoke well, emphasising that the proposal was one to deprive the Council of the right of arranging such matters because they were making an experiment. He referred to the postcard vote which he had taken through his counterblast, and produced a handbag the contents of which he disclosed amidst much merriment. The postcards from those who favoured the Council's experiment numbered

613. A little bundle, numbering 21, was from those against it, and 6 were from individuals who had not been able to make up their minds. Professor Frankland proceeded to say that of the 152 contributions to the Society in 1900, 59 were from London Fellows, and 93 from country Fellows, while of the 1,900 members in Great Britain 700 were resident in London and 1,200 in the provinces. He regarded these figures as conclusively in favour of the country members, for whom the change is intended, and moved as an amendment a resolution expressing continued confidence in the Council as the Executive of the Society.

Mr. Hehner and others protested that this was not an amendment, but the President ruled that it was.

Professor Ramsay seconded it, saying the effect of the motion would be to fix things for all eternity, an assurance which was punctuated with "noes"; whereupon Professor Ramsay calmly informed the meeting that if they passed the resolution they would give the Council "a nasty slap in the face."

Mr. A. H. Allen elaborated Mr. Hehner's argument as to the proposed new day and hour clashing with other Societies, adding that it would deprive the younger Fellows of the benefit of drinking in wisdom from the great members of the Society.

Mr. D. Lloyd Howard followed in an eloquent speech against Mr. Hehner's proposal. He stated that four members of his own family are Fellows of the Society, and it would be a great convenience to them to have the meetings at 5.30, and his firm would allow all members of their staff who are Fellows the time to attend the meetings. He submitted that the motion was in substance and in fact a vote of want of confidence in the Council.

Professor Smithells, who with several of his colleagues at Yorkshire College had signed Professor Frankland's counterblast, frankly admitted that they did so in order to support the Council, for the old day and hour of meeting suited them.

Mr. Lewkowitch opposed the amendment.

Professor Dewar spoke in a judicial manner regarding the action of the Council. During his presidency it had been his fate, he said, to make a close study of the charter and by-laws of the Society, and he submitted that the Council are compelled by the charter to carry out the resolution come to at the previous special general meeting. He had, in fact, persuaded the Council to depart from the proposed change, but that good intention was afterwards rescinded. He appealed to Mr. Phipson Beale, K.C., who was present, if it is not the case that the Council are bound to carry out the terms of the resolutions of the last special general meeting. He quoted from a speech made by Professor Thorpe, as President, on this question, and there was a momentary dispute between these two eminent men as to what Professor Thorpe said.

Mr. Warrington followed, saying that the resolution meant distrust of the Council. This Mr. Hehner denied.

Mr. Phipson Beale said the charter does give the power to the general meeting that Professor Dewar referred to, but the power has to be exercised through the by-laws, and the Council were not bound to carry out the particular resolution referred to.

Professor Dewar now stated that the President had been authorised to get counsel's opinion as to whether his interpretation of the charter was correct or not. He presumed the President had the information in his pocket, and he asked him to decide between Mr. Beale and himself.

The President said he would do nothing of the kind. He then appointed four scrutators, explaining that Professor Frankland's amendment would be put to the meeting first, and that the voting would be by card, on which were the words "for" and "against," with a blank for the signature of the Fellow voting. Each one would erase the word that he did not wish to use.

The vote was then taken, and the scrutators retired with the Secretaries. They returned thirty-five minutes later, when the President announced that 128 had voted for Professor Frankland's motion and 120 against it. There were loud calls to put the motion to the meeting, but the President ruled that, the amendment having been passed, the original motion fell to the ground. Mr. Hehner protested that Professor Frankland's motion was not an amendment, but the President decisively adjourned the meeting in a hubbub.

Personalities.

IN our report of the election of new Fellows of the Chemical Society last week (page 948) the name of Mr. Hermann C. T. Gardner was given as "C. T. G. Hermann" owing to a printer's error on the ballot-paper.

IN our DIARY list of hospitals (page 224) the name of the dispenser at St. Mary's Hospital is incorrectly given. This position is held by Mr. Edward A. Andrews, who is also the teacher of pharmacy in the medical school attached to the hospital.

DR. JOKICHI TAKAMINE, F.C.S., left London on Thursday for Genoa, where he will join Mrs. Takamine and his family, continuing their journey to Japan. He expects to be six months there, and will return to New York *via* San Francisco.

MR. THOMAS TICKLE has resigned his appointment as demonstrator in botany at the Exeter Museum. The Governors are to be recommended to appoint a demonstrator in botany and chemistry at 120*l.* a year, and Mr. Wippell Gadd is recommended for appointment as demonstrator in pharmacy at 30*l.* a year.

MR. MORGAN W. JAMES, chemist, Llanelly, has written to the local paper explaining what company-pharmacy is, and gives the names of five qualified chemists, and concludes with the remark that "any other person, persons, or companies carrying on business as chemists in Llanelly are not qualified to do so."

AT the November Final examination of the Incorporated Law Society Mr. J. Shera Atkinson, LL.B. (London), son of Mr. J. G. Atkinson, pharmaceutical chemist, Upper Norwood, obtained the Clifford's Inn prize, being second in first-class honours. He was also awarded the Broderip Gold Medal for being first in order of merit, and having shown himself best acquainted with the law of real property and the practice of conveyancing for the year 1901.

MR. F. M. DUNCALF, son of Mr. T. H. Duncalf, chemist, Macclesfield, has been awarded the Stephen Heelis Gold Medal by the Council of the Incorporated Law Society. This prize, which is of the value of one year's interest on 423*l.* bank annuities, is competed for by candidates articulated to solicitors practising in Manchester or Salford, and is awarded to the candidate who is considered to have passed the best examination during the year, and who has obtained a prize or a certificate at the Honours examination.

Business Changes.

MR. C. J. ELLIS, chemist and druggist, Hemel Hempstead, is opening a business at Clifton Road, Northwood, Middlesex.

MR. A. G. GREEN, chemist and druggist, has bought the business lately carried on by Mrs. Shera at 69 Churchfield Road, Acton, W.

MR. F. W. BROOM, chemist and druggist, of Exeter, has acquired the business at 36 Fore Street, Devonport, lately belonging to Mr. W. Dyer.

MESSRS. JAMES BOULTON & CO. (LIMITED) have removed their works from Station Street, Stratford, to Crayford Mills, Warton Road, Stratford, E.

MESSRS. FLATTERS & GARNETT (LIMITED) are to carry on business as chemists and druggists at a new shop in Deansgate, near Blackfriars Street, Manchester.

IT is reported that Boots Cash Chemists (Western) Limited, have acquired premises at High Street, Barnstaple, and at High Street, Ilfracombe, as North Devon branches.

MESSRS. JOSEPH SEYERS & THOS. BATESON, pharmaceutical chemists, 23 Strickland Gate, Kendal, have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued alone by Mr. Bateson.

MESSRS. CHAS. JAMES ARBLASTER & WALTER JOHN CHURCHILL, trading as chemists at 117 New Street, Birmingham, under the style of "Arblaster & Churchill," have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by Mr. Arblaster under the old title.

Marriages.

COOK—SMITH.—At Pembroke Road Church, Portsmouth, on December 12, Mr. A. W. Cook, B.A., Indian Civil Service, to Miss E. L. Smith, elder daughter of Mr. W. B. Smith, chemist and dentist, Gosport.

HANBURY—DYMOND.—On December 12, at the Parish Church, Langton Matravers, Dorset, by the Rev. Gordon Ponsorhy, rector of Devonport, assisted by the Rev. J. W. Coulter, rector of the parish, Daniel, second son of Commendatore Sir Thomas Hanbury, K.C.V.O., of La Mortola, Ventimiglia, Italy, to Sylvia Dorothea, daughter of the late George Dymond and Mrs. Dymond, of Leeson House, Langton Matravers.

Deaths.

CONDIE.—Mr. James Condie, a well-known New York pharmacist, who died on November 24, at the age of 79, was born in Perth, Scotland, and went to the United States when 18 years old, with a good knowledge of the drug-business, having served his apprenticeship in Glasgow.

HOOD.—At 42 Balfour Street, Leith, on December 17, Mr. Thomas Hood, chemist and druggist. Mr. Hood was formerly in business at Nairn, but went to South Africa, and returned about two years ago in indifferent health. At the time of his death he was acting as manager for the Edinburgh and Leith Drug Company, Albert Street.

KEY.—Mr. W. H. Key, chemist and dentist, of Pontypridd, died somewhat suddenly at the Cardiff Infirmary on Wednesday morning, December 16. He had been ailing for a considerable time, and last Monday week went to the infirmary to undergo an operation. This was regarded as highly successful, and the patient was improving so much that it was arranged he should return home before the end of the week. On Tuesday night, however, a relapse took place, and he died in a few hours. Deceased was one of the oldest tradesmen in Pontypridd, having lived there for close upon forty years. Though he had never sought public honours he had been President of the Chamber of Trade, and was also a member of the Free Library Committee. He was a prominent Freemason, and had gone through all the chairs of the Merlin Lodge. He had also held office in the Provincial Grand Lodge.

SANDERSON.—At Uttoxeter, on December 5, Mr. Thomas Sanderson, chemist and druggist. Aged 52.

Recent Wills.

BATTY.—The will of Mr. Thomas Batty, chemist and druggist, 154 Walmgate, York, who died on May 6, has been proved in the District Probate Registry by Mrs. Emma Batty, the widow and sole executrix. The gross value of the estate is 1,382*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*, and the net value of the personalty 343*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*

BOTTERILL.—The estate of the late Mr. Frederick William Botterill, chemist and druggist, 30 Walmgate, York, who died on June 20, is valued at 763*l.*, the net personalty being 565*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* The sole executrix is his widow, Mrs. Selina Botterill.

KIRKMAN.—The will of Mr. Charles John Kirkman, chemist and druggist, of 17 Burlington Place, Eastbourne (formerly of 5 Lonsdale Terrace, Kew), has been proved in the Lewes District Probate Registry by his widow, Mrs. Eliza Daniel Kirkman—Mr. William Holmes, the other surviving executor, having renounced probate. The gross value of the estate was 80*l.*

LONG.—Mr. Henry Long, pharmaceutical chemist, 110 Southampton Street, Reading, who died on May 10, has by his will left a gross estate of 3,542*l.* 11*s.*, and a net personalty of 3,452*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* His executors are his son, Mr. Arthur Richard Long, 59 Merton Road, Wimbledon, commercial traveller, and Mr. William Arthur Morris, 47 Essendine Road, Paddington, W., manufacturing chemist.

NIX.—The gross value of the estate of the late Mr. John Knowles Nix, chemist and druggist, of Billericay, Essex, who died on June 10, has been sworn at 744*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, and the net personalty at 722*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* The estate was administered by his son, Mr. John Beard Nix, chemist and druggist.

Trade-mark Law.

IN the last of his series of lectures at King's College Professor Cutler dealt with "Trade-names." He defined a trade-name as

A name under which a trader sells his goods in the market, and by which his goods are known in the market as distinguishing them from the similar goods of other traders.

He pointed out that if a trade-name is such as to be an "essential particular" under the Act, it can be registered as a trade-mark, and that a trade-name can also be registered as part of a trade-mark, but for the protection of unregistered trade-names the owner has to rely on the common-law rule prohibiting a man from passing off his goods as the goods of another. He pointed out that the plaintiff in a trade-name case must establish two propositions—first, that his trade-name denotes and distinguishes his goods in the market; and, second, that the defendant is using the trade-name in such a way as to pass off his goods as those of the plaintiff. The theory of the law is that the owner of a trade-name has no monopoly in it, but only the right to prevent others from using it in such a manner as to pass off their goods as his, and, except in very special cases, the Courts carry out this theory in practice.

He referred to a case in which a person named Whitehouse had been restrained by injunction from using the trade-name "Brazilian Silver" without clearly distinguishing. Whitehouse afterwards began to use the term "F. Whitehouse's Brazilian Silver," and it was held that he had not thereby clearly distinguished.

Professor Cutler said that an extremely difficult question, and one which has not approached a final settlement, is what is the extent of user necessary to establish a trade-name in the market, extent meaning extent in point of time and in point of locality. As to extent in point of time, if a trader's goods "catch on," his trade-name soon becomes known, but if his trade is built up by slow degrees his trade-name can only be built up by slow degrees also. As to locality the lecturer referred to a case in which it was laid down that the user of a trade-name must be universal in England and Wales. He said that if the meaning of this judgment is that if a man has an established trade-name in Birmingham and the Midlands he is bound, in order to obtain protection for it, to prove that it is equally well known in Devonshire and Cornwall, but he did not agree with the Judge who had laid down this rule. If it be necessary to prove that a trade-name is known "universally" in the literal sense of the word, it would be almost impossible ever to establish a trade-name.

The lecturer then spoke of disclaimers, and put the question whether, if a trader registers a trade-mark (a part of which consists of his trade-name), with a disclaimer to any right of the exclusive use of that trade-name, can he afterwards sue for infringement of his trade-name which he has thus disclaimed? After examining four cases bearing on this subject, Professor Cutler said that it appeared to him that the true principle is that by registering a trade-mark with a disclaimer to the right of the exclusive use of a word a trader does not thereby sanction or licence the use of that word together with such accompaniments as will lead to the goods of another being passed off as his goods, but that he cannot, in a passing-off action, rely simply and solely on the word which he has disclaimed. He then referred with approval to the following provision of the London Chamber of Commerce Bill:—

Any disclaimer under this Act, or any enactment repealed by this Act, shall be deemed to be a disclaimer for the purposes only of registration under this Act, and no such disclaimer shall in any way affect or prejudice the rights, if any, of the applicant, at common law or otherwise, to the matter disclaimed.

He pointed out that if this provision becomes law, a trader in a passing-off action will be able to rely on his trade-name alone, even though it has been disclaimed.

ANTIMONY-MINES.—A group of four antimony-mines on the western slope of the Panamint Mountains, Inyo County, is being developed, the ore of which is said to average 50 per cent. antimony.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1*l.*, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 4, 1901.)

Devices of labels for rheumatic and erysipelas drops, lung-healers, and stomach-strengtheners. By Alfred Fennings, Victoria Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight. 239,715, 239,716, and 239,717.

"LITTLE JOKER" for chemicals. By J. Hodgkin, 12 Dynevor Road, Richmond, Surrey. 241,265.

"Device of liquid being poured into the root of a tooth, and the word "CHLORAMPHOR," for a label (no claim for "Chlor"); for a medicine. By J. Scobie, 4 Lochiel Terrace, Thornliebank, N.B. 241,294.

Device (the essential particular) for surgical dressings. By A. Berliner, 13 and 15 Worship Street, E.C. 241,325.

"TUSSANO" for cough-mixture. By F. Hider, 89 Upton Lane, Forest Gate, E. 241,609.

"BO PEEP" for a medicated soap. By C. Thomas & Brothers (Limited), Broad Plain Soap-works, Bristol. 241,847.

"ANTIRHEUGEM" (no claim for "Anti"); for finger-rings of gold and zinc; for the cure of rheumatism. By A. Constantine, 137 Handsworth Wood Road, Birmingham. 239,754.

Device of label for natural aperient mineral-water, "LORD ROBERTS SPRING" (the essential particular is the signature of the applicant, in its Hungarian form and in German script). By Ludwig Schmidthauer, 820 and 821 Rathausgasse, Komárom, Hungary. 237,406.

"VALENO" and "CEROLIA"; for toilet articles and perfume. By H. H. Long, 48 Dorset Street, W. 241,147 and 241,148.

"CHORISTER," "FLORITZA," and "SOMERA"; for perfumery and toilet articles. By the Vinolia Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, N.W. 241,329, 241,374, and 241,401.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 11, 1901.)

"ZEBRA BRAND," and figure of a zebra; for chemical substances, Class 1. By Colthurst & Harding, 11 Queen Victoria Street, C. 240,076.

"NIXODEL," and figure of a spray producer with signature; for disinfectants and deodorisers. By W. Lawson & Co., Bowley, near Chichester. 241,553.

"VALLS BEETLE CURE"; for a vermin-killer. By H. Vallance, 2 Lyncroft House, Lyncroft Gardens, West Hampstead, N.W. 241,556.

"BO-PEEP" for soap in Class 2. By C. Thomas & Brothers (Limited), Broad Plain Soap-works, Bristol. 241,846.

"EOSOL"; for chemical substances in Class 3. By Johannes Lehmann, 17 Magazin Strasse, Berlin, O. 239,782.

"VIN TONIQUE MARIANI," and other wording on label (essential particular is combination of devices); for tonic wine. By Angelo Mariani, 41 Boulevard Haussmann, Paris. 240,402.

"LIQUFRUTA"; for a cough-medicine. By W. Homeyard, trading as the Mother Job Cure Laboratory, 193 The Grove, Camberwell, S.E. 240,466.

"KONVALITE" on a device; for a medicine. By W. Crompton, 61 West Street, Oldham. 241,109.

"MAYTOX"; for goods in Class 3. By W. I. Scholes, 130 Church Street, Eccles. 241,241.

"WETHERALL'S SCIATICURE," and device of a paw and cup (which is the essential particular); for a medicine. By E. V. A. Wetherall, Hill Crest, Addlestone. 241,688.

"FERMANGLOBIN"; for chemical substances. By Squire & Sons. 413 Oxford Street, W. 241,618.

"DALO"; for photographic cameras. By G. Houghton & Son, 88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C. 242,061.

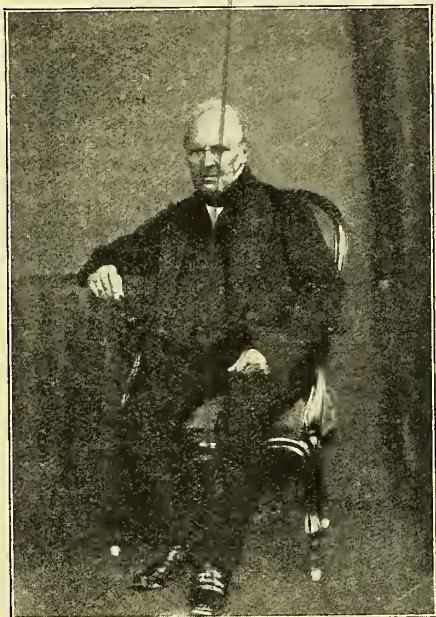
"LITEEN" (no claim for "Light"); for baking-powder, &c. By W. Isaac, 26 Buttermarket Street, Warrington. 241,895.

"MAMEC"; for meat-extracts, &c. By Umberto Ciantar and F. W. F. Ross, M.D., 9 and 10 Great Tower Street, E.C. 242,100.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

JUBILEE OF THE NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

JACOB BELL and John Mackay were the founders of the North British Branch. They had been assistants together for two years (1836-38) in the famous Oxford Street pharmacy established by Bell's father, and when the



THE LATE MR. JOHN DUNCAN,
First President of the Branch.

Pharmaceutical Society was founded in 1841, John Mackay, who had returned to Edinburgh, got a few members—viz., Gavin Steele, of Dumfermline, H. C. Baildon, W. R. Davenport, John Duncan, William Flockhart, James Gardner, Robert Lindsay, James Robertson, and himself, all of Edinburgh. John Mackay's name occurs in the first list of members of the Society as Secretary in Edinburgh. There were two associates, Thomas Septimus Pattison, and J. Horwood, both of Edinburgh. This was the nucleus of the Society's Scotch-connection.

Many suppose that the Branch was founded as a result of Jacob Bell's historic provincial peregrinations, but so far as Scotland is concerned these happened two years later. The Pharmacy Bill of 1851 seems to have induced the crystallisation of the Branch. There had been opposition to it from Scotland on the part of physicians and surgeons, and in July of that year meetings of chemists and druggists were held in Aberdeen and Edinburgh, at which resolutions were passed in favour of a Board of Examiners for Scotland, for which there was no provision in the Bill. The Lord Advocate and Sir W. G. Craig, M.P., moved in the matter, and the necessary clause was introduced. This forced the situation. On September 8 a circular was issued by John Mackay, in which it was stated that a meeting of the Society had been held that day at 73 Prince's Street, Mr. John Duncan presiding, whereat a communication was read from the Society in London as to the establishment of a Board of Examiners for Scotland. The Scotch members, who had increased to twenty-six during the decade, proposed a

board of four members. A meeting was called for September 22, at which Mr. John Duncan again presided, and Mr. Jacob Bell was present. It was agreed that the Board of Examiners should number eight, and they should be nominated annually at a general meeting of the members resident in Scotland to be held in Edinburgh, and the Board would meet in Edinburgh four times a year or as often as required. The Council of the Society adopted the proposals on December 3, 1851, and appointed Messrs. H. C. Baildon, John Duncan, W. R. Davenport, James Gardner, J. F. Macfarlan, John Mackay, and James Robertson, as examiners. The Board was recognised by the Act. The Council advanced to Mr. Mackay 25% for museum requisites and 20% for current expenditure.

Simultaneously with the nomination of examiners by the meeting of members held on September 22, 1851, a committee appears to have been appointed with Mr. John Duncan as Chairman or President. This committee's first report was submitted to the annual meeting of the members held in Edinburgh on April 4, 1853. The notice convening the meeting (*Phar. Journ.* i. xii. 486) gives the first public



THE LATE MR. JOHN MACKAY,
First Secretary of the Branch.

indication of the existence of the "North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society." It is worth reprinting now:—

Business of the Meeting.—1. Report of the Committee for the year 1852-53. 2. Election of President and Vice-President for 1853-54. 3. Election of Examiners for 1853-54. 4. Appointment of Committee to act till next annual meeting. 5. Continuation of Mr. Macfarlan as representative at the Council Board in London. 6. Motion by Mr. Mackay. "That it is expedient, in order to assist in carrying out the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, to render it imperative that all future apprentices to pharmaceutical chemists in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, St. Andrews, and other places where lectures are delivered, shall attend at least one course of materia medica and one course of chemistry; and resolve that this meeting strongly recommend an especial clause in each indenture to this effect."



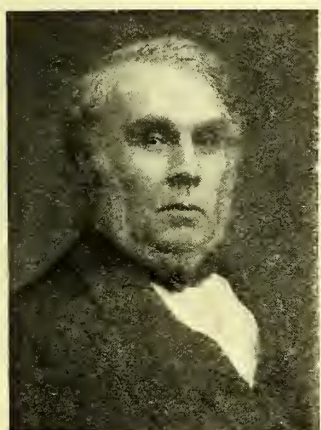
MR. JOHN NESBIT,
President of the Branch 1883-1887.
Formerly an Examiner.



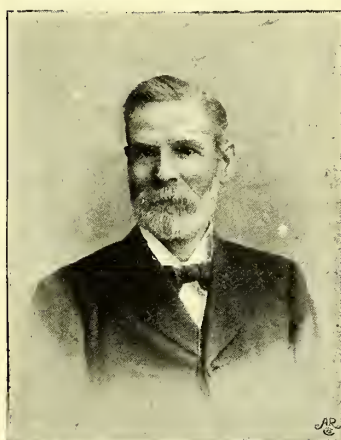
DR. H. BELLYSE BAILDON, M.A.,
Chairman of the Branch 1887-1888.
Formerly a member of the Council
of the Society and an Examiner;
now Lecturer on English literature
at Dundee University College.



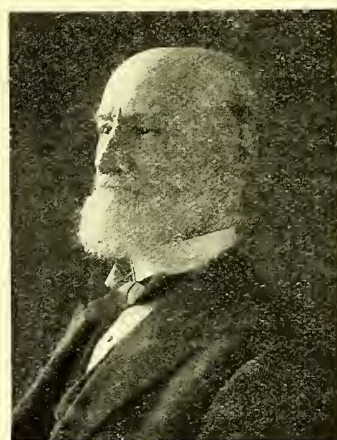
MR. J. L. EWING,
Chairman of the Branch 1891-1899.
Formerly an Examiner.



MR. J. R. YOUNG,
Became a pharmaceutical chemist at
the first Major examination held in
Scotland. Was President of the
North British Branch for three terms;
also an examiner and a member of
the Council of the Society.



MR. WILLIAM GILMOUR, F.R.S.E.,
President of the Branch 1874-1877, and
Chairman 1888-1891. For many
years an Examiner in chemistry, and
a voluminous contributor to pharma-
ceutical literature.



MR. J. B. STEPHENSON,
President of the Branch 1877-1882;
also Hon. Treasurer, and a member
of the Board of Examiners. The
only Scottish pharmacist who has
been President of the British Phar-
macetical Conference.



MR. WILLIAM DOIG,
Vice Chairman of the Branch. Acted
as croupier at the dinner.



MR. PETER BOA,
Chairman of the Branch and an Ex-
aminer. Presided at the dinner.



MR. W. L. CURRIE,
Has served as Vice Chairman of the
Branch. Acted as croupier at the
dinner.

The meeting was duly held, Jacob Bell being present. He had just held very successful meetings in Aberdeen and Glasgow, where those present resolved to join the society forthwith. Mr. Bell spoke in Edinburgh about the "North British Branch" and "the other branch in England," while in his presence a president (Mr. J. F. Macfarlan), and vice-president (Mr. H. C. Baildon) were appointed, as well as twelve other members of the committee, which a year or two later became a "council," and continued to be so-called until 1886, when a fresh constitution was granted to the Branch after a lengthy dispute with headquarters. Under this the administrative body was renamed "Executive" and Chairman and Vice-Chairman were prescribed as the names of the chief Scotch officers. It may be as well to mention that the Scotch members took no liberties with titles before that because the North British Branch, its committee, President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary, were specially mentioned in the annual report of the Society for 1853, and until 1885 they were used without dispute.

The Branch has had several sets of rooms during its existence. Although meetings were held at 73 Prince's Street, the first rooms rented for the Board of Examiners were at No. 6 York Place, where the first examinations were held on February 24, 1852. It must have been a heavy session for the Examiners, as thirty-five passed the Major and twenty-three the Minor—a 100 per cent. pass no doubt. Of those who passed the Major there are still living Mr. Alexander Govan (St. Andrews), Mr. David Stevenson Reid (Anstruther), and Mr. James Robertson Young (Edinburgh). The Minor men who are still to the fore are Mr. James Aitken (Edinburgh), Mr. James Buchanan (Edinburgh), Mr. Robert Jamie (Edinburgh), and Mr. Alexander Noble (Edinburgh). Several were also registered as apprentices—Mr. David S. Kemp, then with Mr. H. C. Baildon, later of Bombay, being one of them. Altogether during the first year the Branch secured ninety-seven members, associates, and apprentices for the Society. The examinations were afterwards held at the Prince's Street rooms, which in 1856 were found to be inadequate, and the Branch migrated to No. 50 George Street and in 1858 to No. 51. St. George's Hall was the next resting-place, but in 1872 premises were taken in St. Giles Street, and were occupied for two years, until rooms over Mr. John Mackay's pharmacy, 119 George Street, became available, and there in three apartments—museum, library, and laboratory—the examinations were conducted until 1884, when the Society purchased the house at 36 York Place, which was adapted to the Society's requirements, but in 1894 a further extension was made by building in the back-garden a spacious examination-hall and pharmaceutical and chemical laboratories which are better suited for their purpose than the corresponding provision in Bloomsbury Square.

Mr. John Duncan was the first Chairman or President of the Branch. He was the founder of the world-famed business of Duncan, Flockhart & Co. The complete list of heads of the Branch during the half century is as follows:—

1851-53. John Duncan	1867-68. J. R. Young
1853-54. J. F. Macfarlan	1868-69. Wm. Ainslie
1854-55. H. C. Baildon	1869-71. Wm. Aitken
1855-56. Jas. Gardner	1871-73. H. C. Baildon
1856-57. Jas. Robertson	1873-74. J. R. Young
1857-58. Wm. Flockhart	1874-77. Wm. Gilmour
1858-59. Jas. Robertson	1877-82. J. B. Stephenson
1859-60. Richard Raimes	1882-83. Alex. Napier
1860-61. J. R. Young	1883-87. John Nesbit
1861-62. Wm. Ainslie	1887-88. H. Bellyse Baildon
1862-63. Wm. Aitken	1888-91. Wm. Gilmour
1863-64. Geo. Blanshard	1891-99. J. L. Ewing
1864-67. David Kemp	1899- Peter Boa.

Mr. John Duncan was a notable man in many respects. Before he went to Edinburgh he had been in business at

Perth along with Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Dandie. In Edinburgh he found greater scope for his abilities. The firm which he founded has through its partners always taken a keen interest in the work of the Branch; besides Mr. Duncan, Mr. Wm. Flockhart and Mr. J. L. Ewing as Presidents, the firm has contributed to the Board of Examiners four of the most able members—viz., Mr. William Tait, Mr. James Buchanan, Mr. Alex. Noble, and Dr. Inglis Clark.

Mr. J. F. Macfarlan, the second President, was another remarkable man. He was a member of the Council in London from 1851 until his death in 1861, when John Mackay succeeded him. Again house association is manifested by the occurrence of the name of his assistant (Mr. J. R. Young) in the presidency, and it was Mr. Young's fate, after being an examiner for many years, to resign that position in order to take the vacancy on the Council created by Mr. Mackay's death in 1881. Mr. David Rennie Brown (a partner of Mr. Macfarlan's) was a member of the Board of Examiners for many years. He was a singularly gifted man, and his namesake (Mr. David Brown Dott) has of recent years also acted as an examiner.

Again we find association in Mr. James Gardner and Mr. William Ainslie, his junior partner; in Mr. James Robertson, a founder of the Branch, and Mr. J. B. Stephenson, who was for some time in business with him; in Mr. H. C. Baildon and his son, Dr. Bellyse Baildon; while Mr. William Gilmour, who held the presidency for three years and the chairmanship for the same period, is the business successor of Mr. Robert Lindsay, an original member of the Society and a founder of the Branch. Even the present Chairman carries us straight back in business terms to 1851, for he is the owner of the retail pharmacy at 119 George Street, which John Mackay founded. We give portraits of the surviving Presidents and Chairmen, besides those of Mr. John Duncan, Mr. John Mackay, and Mr. Hill.

From the beginning the Branch has been a replica of headquarters—so far as work is concerned. Evening meetings have been held during the winter months for fifty years. The officers have succeeded in keeping closely in touch with academic Edinburgh. The museum and library have grown to good proportions. In the earlier years an educational course was actually instituted and carried on with fair success, but that has latterly given way to special terms for pharmaceutical students who desire to enter the university or extra-mural lectures on subjects germane to their calling. The Committee or Council or Executive has never been over-burdened with work, which is now confined to the administration of local



MR. J. RUTHERFORD HILL,
Assistant-Secretary of
the Society.

affairs and assisting the Council in regard to special inquiries on matters affecting Scotland. During John Mackay's lifetime the whole of the work was supervised by him: he was an unpaid secretary and was as much the life of the Branch as Jacob Bell was in his lifetime the soul of the Pharmaceutical Society. When he died, on April 19, 1881, it was felt that one of the makers of the Society had gone, and there was not a single man to fill his place. Mr. J. R. Young succeeded him as a member of the Council, to act as the link of communication between London

and Edinburgh, Mr. J. B. Stephenson was elected Honorary Treasurer, with the charge of local administrative affairs, and Mr. Peter MacEwan was appointed paid secretary, which office he vacated in 1883, when Mr. John Rutherford Hill, who seems to have been designed by nature for it, succeeded him. When Mr. Mackay died the membership of the Society in Scotland (members and associates in business) was 210 or one-seventeenth of the Society's voting-force; in 1886 it was 292, but to-day it is 633, against the Society's total membership of 5623. These figures sufficiently indicate the growth of its influence in Scotland, but the fact may as well be stated that the Examinations are the specific statutory function of the Branch, where also the progress has been remarkable, as the following figures for the Minor show:—

	Examined	Passed
1871	47	30
1881	83	47
1891	446	258
1901	415	184

These figures give the most convenient comparison of decades up to the present since the 1868 Act came into force. During that time the preliminary passes had trebled.

Dinner in the Royal Hotel, Edinburgh.

In the early hours of Wednesday morning a heavy snow-storm occurred all over the east of Scotland, so that the travelling experiences of many of the Scottish (and English) pharmacists who graced the dinner were not of the most agreeable description. Edinburgh was picturesque in a snow-white mantle, except for the slushy patches which adorned the pavements, and created discomfort to the foot-passenger. The weather accounted in part for the non-attendance of many who had signified a desire to be present, but the gathering was one of which pharmacy in Scotland (or in England either for that matter) need not feel ashamed. The indefatigable Mr. Rutherford Hill was here, there, and everywhere, and the success of the meeting is, in great measure, due to his energy. The beaming physiognomy of Mr. M. Carteighe was cheered on its appearance in the reception-room, and Mr. Newsholme was congratulated on the handsomeness of his decoration, which burst upon a gathering of Scottish pharmacists for the first time. A heartiness and geniality truly Scotch characterised the proceedings throughout, and but for the fatal truckling to the proverbial loquacity of the festive Scotchman (there were nine toasts) everything would have been perfect from a reporting point of view. It was 9 o'clock before the speaking began, when Professor Ralph Stockman, in an appreciative and appreciated oration, proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society." An excellent musical programme of music was rendered during the evening, songs being given by Messrs. Dykes, Young, Tait, Currie, and Rowland. Mr. Luigi gave excellent violin selections, and Mr. Short was an efficient accompanist.

Mr. Peter Boa, Chairman of the Branch, presided over a Company numbering about 150 gentlemen, and the Vice-chairmen were Bailie William Doig (Dundee) and Mr. W. L. Currie (President of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association). Among those present were Dr. T. A. Clouston (member of Council, Royal College of Physicians), Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme (President of the Society), Professor Ralph Stockman (Glasgow), Dr. J. Halliday Croom (President of the Royal College of Surgeons), Mr. Michael Carteighe, Dr. Wm. Guy (Dean of the Dental School), Bailie Cameron, Professor Sir Henry Littlejohn (Edinburgh), Mr. F. A. Grant Ogilvie (director of the Museum of Science and Art), Mr. D. Storrar (Kirkcaldy), Professor A. R. Simpson (Edinburgh), Dr. Wm. Craig, Mr. J. Laidlaw Ewing, J.P., Dr. B. H. Paul (*Pharmaceutical Journal*), Mr. William Chalmers (*THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*), Dr. John Gibson, Dr. Leonard Dobbin, and Mr. Peter Morison, sen., (the solicitor to the Society in Scotland).

After dinner the CHAIRMAN proposed "The King, Queen, and Royal Family," and Mr. CURRIE gave "The Imperial Forces," which was acknowledged by Colonel IVISON MACADAM, V.D. Bailie DOIG proposed "The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Edinburgh," to which Bailie CAMERON replied.

Professor STOCKMAN, in a somewhat lengthy speech, proposed

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

He spoke of the toast as the toast of the evening, and, having gone back to the early history of pharmacy in the days of the Egyptians on through its Grecian and Roman periods, he came to the foundation of the Pharmaceutical Society sixty years ago, in the interests of the public and the members themselves. They met with a good deal of opposition at first, but they collected funds, with which they built their handsome premises in London, and fitted them up. During the last sixty years these had been the centre of scientific research. He spoke of the great work carried on by the Society, not only in its research laboratories in London under a highly trained teaching staff, but throughout the country by private members, and in this connection he referred to the work which had been done by Mr. Dott in connection with morphine. He also referred to the valuable museums and libraries which had been established in Edinburgh and London, and to the latest edition of the British Pharmacopœia as a work in which the whole nation was interested, and which was compiled by the assistance of pharmacists all over the country. The work which had been done in connection with that book was still going on in preparation for the next edition. Lately the examinations for entrance to the Society had been raised, and external examiners—well-known chemists and botanists—had been appointed, so that the examinations might have a definite public bearing. In return for all this strenuous exertion of public service it was curious to note what a grateful community had bestowed in return. (Hear, hear.) For the last week he had been trying to find out, but it was a little difficult, and the only two things which he had managed to discover were that the members had obtained a right to retail what were called scheduled poisons and to call themselves chemists and druggists. He compared this treatment with that which the enlightened community of the middle ages bestowed upon their pharmacists, and he quoted from the *Pharmacopœia Augustana*, 1646, as follows:—

As in the province of medicine the pharmaceutic vindicates for itself not the least humble place, and as it exists as an integral part of medicine—moreover, as medicine among civilised peoples has always been held sacred and holy—therefore it is necessary that the pharmacist should be an honest man, trained in his art, holding exactly the reason and mode of preparing medicines, and properly skilled . . . he should blush to in secret what he would not do publicly; he should do nothing in his profession negligently and rashly, much less, therefore, fraudulently, and that not from a fear of punishment but from a love of virtue; that he be pious, humanus, benignus, affabilis, placidus, misericors, officiosus, ut loca pauperes mitis et liberales, publica propriis ac privatis anteponeans.

Besides being a model of all the virtues, he is directed to have a good knowledge of Latin, not only that he may correctly read prescriptions but that he may improve himself by study, and thus become a good judge of drugs, being able to distinguish between bona, mediocra, and optima. . . . Quacks of all kinds are forbidden the town under the designation of strollers, charlatans, empirics, apostates, Jews, artisans, fortune-tellers, pedlars, slight-of-hand men, secret medicine-sellers, old women, and hombastic doctors.

He noticed from reading their journals that there was a considerable amount of dissatisfaction with what the Council did regarding this, that, and the other thing, but he said that was not confined to the Pharmaceutical Council, but was what was happening in the General Medical Council. It was complained that the General Medical Council did not invoke the aid of the Government to bring in a Bill of some kind, and the same idea seemed to prevail in the Pharmaceutical Society. But he thought they were far better to be as free of Government control as possible. The Society had shown itself self-reliant, and by their own exertions had built up a wealthy and powerful Society, and he counselled them to continue progressing in that way. It was a matter of some speculation what the next development was to be,

but he supposed as things stood it would be in the way of having a compulsory course in addition to membership, and following that there would be a desire to have a university degree of some kind. (Applause.) That would be a very good thing in due time, but he might presume to counsel the heads of the Society to be very wary in dealing with the universities or the Scottish universities at any rate. He emphasised the fact that they could not give them anything like the training they got in their own school of pharmacy in London. (Applause.) The universities might in time become rich enough to have a complete staff of professors and teaching appliances, but they were not at present so well equipped as the Society was.

Mr. Newsholme, replying, said he did not intend to go back 3,000 years, or, indeed, to say much concerning the Pharmaceutical Society. He referred in eulogistic terms to the valuable assistance Dr. Stockman had given to the Society by his papers. Pharmacy since 1841, he continued, had progressed considerably. He insisted that pharmacists generally do not sufficiently appreciate the nobility of men like Wm. Allen, Jacob Bell, and George Webb Sandford, who unselfishly devoted their lives to the cause of pharmacy, and he wound up this section of his speech with a well-received eulogy of Mr. Carteighe. He agreed with Dr. Stockman that there is little pecuniary interest in true pharmacy, and they must be content with the fact that virtue is its own reward. But perhaps the ordinary pharmacist ought to cultivate a greater virtue than he has hitherto done. Let pharmacists all make sure, he said, that they deserve a great deal more than they ask for, and he thought justly. Individual character should be the trade-mark of the pharmacist. With regard to the gentleman who said "Hear, hear" to Dr. Ralph Stockman's remark about some not being pleased with the Council, he admitted that he had great sympathy with the disaffected ones, but the Council was only what the members of the Society made it, and it was trying to do the best they could for pharmacy and for the public.

MEDICINE.

Mr. D. Storrar then proposed "The Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons," and incidentally referred to the fact that some rather personal things had been said in the West Country in regard to the aims of the Pharmaceutical Society, but nothing said would make any difference between the best portions of the two bodies.

Dr. T. S. Clouston (for the College of Physicians) and Dr. J. Halliday Croom (for the College of Surgeons) replied. Both speeches were extremely amusing, these eminent practitioners of after-dinner oratory (albeit equally famed in their profession) interspersing their more sober remarks with humorous anecdotes. Perhaps Dr. Halliday Croom's story was the most piquant. He told his audience, as a great secret, that for some years he had been an examiner in materia medica, a subject of which he knew as much as the Great Auk. All went well until one day a patriarchal individual came into the examination-room, and he (Dr. Halliday Croom) said to him, "What do you know of the wines of materia medica?" The patriarch looked at him, and ejaculated gruffly, "A good lot more than you do. I am a pharmaceutical chemist." The examiner rushed from the room, and from that day his examining in materia medica ceased.

Mr. J. F. Tocher proposed

"THE SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES."

He said he hoped that whatever scientific training was necessary for pharmaceutical students, that training might soon be available under the wing of the Universities. (Applause.) Scottish students would also be able to learn pharmacy without having to go to London to study it. He believed new conditions were arising in connection with the gift of Mr. Carnegie to the Scottish Universities, and that they would be afforded unparalleled facilities for following out scientific research. (Applause.)

Professor A. R. Simpson, replying, said with regard to the claim of pharmacists to be taught at the University he thought that if pharmacists would but go and arrange some scheme that the University of Edinburgh, at least, would be found quite willing to co-operate. He could not see that there would be any difficulty whatever in arranging such a pharmaceutical course as was desired by many pharmacists,

and he hoped the day would soon come when pharmacists and the Universities would be more intimate than they had hitherto been.

Mr. Carteighe, in a speech full of points, proposed

"THE NORTH BRITISH BRANCH."

He alluded to the circumstances under which the North British Branch came into existence, emphasising what Mr. Jacob Bell found when he came to Scotland as to the attainments and experience and the prosperity of the men of the craft he came in contact with in this country. He mentioned the names of Macfarlan, Mackay, Frazer, Young, Johnston, Storrar, and Ewing, as men who had had a large part in the direct administration of the Society in Scotland. To point a moral—these men had done their part in bringing about the cordial alliance between the Society and the Branch in the past, and he asked who were the men who were going to do it in the future? They had men capable of doing it. Who were the men who were going to put their hands in their pockets or neglect their ordinary affairs to push the establishment forward in Scotland during the next fifty years? It would not do for them, now that they had got a mass of registered men throughout Great Britain and a proportionate number in Scotland, to trust to legislation of any sort; it might be necessary even to oppose it; it might be necessary to raise the question whether they should keep up the standard of pharmacy in Scotland or be absolute free-traders. The position was nearly coming to that in the United Kingdom. He appealed to them, they that were always ready to fight the battles of their country, to show their power, prowess, and realise that they had got to fight intellectually. He appealed to their best men to come forward and to put the North British Branch on the soundest possible footing. They had an Executive, a museum, a library—all the materials for externally and internally carrying on the profession of pharmacy in a way that would appeal as a respectable calling to every person in Scotland—but that was not enough. If the men who came to their meetings would not consent to sacrifice something for the body politic, but continued as they were doing during the next fifty years, he did not think the mere structure of the museum and library would help them much. Speaking on the question of the standard of the Preliminary, he said there was a good deal to be said on both sides. He hoped those who wanted to go back were not numerous, and they must remember what going back meant. If they went back, they went back to free-trade absolutely in the selling and dispensing of poisons and medicine; if they went forward, they would show all the great men that they were worthy of the respect of the House of Commons and the public. He asked their Chairman to practise oratory, and make himself as troublesome as Michael Carteighe had done in his career.

Mr. Carteighe spoke for twenty-five minutes, and seemed to carry the great majority of his audience with him.

The Chairman, replying on behalf of the North British Branch, reviewed its history for the last fifty years, and he expressed the belief that it had fulfilled the aims which Jacob Bell had in promoting its formation, to equalise the influence of the Society over the country, and by emulation between north and south to stimulate both, and make the Society in reality, as well as in name, the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. He also referred to the names of the founders of the Branch, and pointed out that in some cases the third generation of these men were carrying on the business to-day, and that Mr. Murdoch (Falkirk), who was present, was probably the only one of those associated with the formation of the Branch. He further mentioned it as a curious fact that he, as the successor in his retail business of Mr. John Mackay, who was mainly instrumental in the formation, should be in the chair on the jubilee. He spoke of the increasing power of the North British Branch and its growing membership, and said that if the Branch had benefited by its alliance to the parent Society, the parent Society had also benefited by the connection. He also referred to the services rendered by their law agent, and to the ability and enthusiasm of the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Hill.

Mr. Ewing proposed "The Vice-Chairmen," to which Bailie Doig replied, and the company broke up at 12 o'clock, after singing "Auld Lang Syne."

Festivities.

ARMY AND NAVY CHEMISTS' SMOKER.

On Saturday evening, December 14, a very successful smoking-concert promoted by the chemists engaged at the Army and Navy Stores was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Clapham Common, Mr. W. M. Lloyd presiding. Notable among the items on the programme was the clever cornet playing by Mr. J. Reay. Mr. W. F. Allen presided at the piano and proved invaluable.

EDINBURGH ATHLETIC CONCERT.

The Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club had a smoking-concert in the Imperial Hotel, Edinburgh, on Monday evening, December 16, Mr. G. H. O. Rowland (President) in the chair. Upwards of 250 were present. The programme was fully up to the standard of previous occasions, among those who contributed being Messrs. J. Harley, J. P. Gibb, Leslie Curtis, J. Hicks, R. Drummond, Graham Courtney, and G. Stoddart. Mr. D. B. Dott proposed the toast of the club, and congratulated the members on their continued success. The Chairman replied. Dr. Geo. Coull proposed a vote of thanks to the artistes which was enthusiastically awarded.

BIRMINGHAM SMOKER.

An excellent smoking-concert was arranged under the auspices of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association at the Great Western Hotel on December 12, with Mr. John Wakefield in the chair. In addition to the professional talent the local brethren "obliged" with songs, recitations, and witticisms, amongst them being Mr. Horner (of Greet), Mr. Pinfield (of Easy Row), and Mr. W. O. Scott. Great credit was due to Mr. Brunt, the Secretary. Mr. John Barclay hoped to have looked in, but was delayed by the breakdown on rail and road consequent on the gale. The attendance was good considering the adverse condition of the elements.

"FORWARDS."

The staff of Messrs. Blackwell, Hayes & Spilsbury, Birmingham, had a tea and concert on December 14, at the Garden Restaurant, Birmingham. Mr. J. Blackwell presided, supported by Mr. Hayes. Mr. J. Spisbury, F.I.C., F.C.S., was absent owing to indifferent health. Sixty were present, the number increasing later in the evening when the concert commenced. Messrs. Blackwell and Hayes, in responding to a vote of thanks, stated that all the talent was provided by the staff. Music was contributed by Messrs. Hayes, Broderick, Henrick, Wood, Hunter, and Oleut, Misses Shaw, Mantell, May, and Travers. Mr. Cartwright, R.A.M., was pianist. The arrangements by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. H. Oleut) were very successful.

A MANCHESTER DINNER.

On December 7 the staff of Messrs. Jas. Woolley, Sons & Co. (Limited) held their twenty-third annual dinner and smoking-concert at the Albion Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester. Mr. W. Lane presided, and about one hundred persons were present. The company included Mr. Geo. S. Woolley (managing director), Mr. C. A. Johnston (director), Dr. E. Stanmore Bishop, Dr. Webster, Mr. J. T. Smith (Radcliffe), and representatives of the three sections of the staff—viz., the laboratories (Knowsley Street), the Market Street branch, and the warehouse and offices (Victoria Bridge). An excellent musical programme was provided, the usual toasts and speeches taking place at appropriate intervals. Songs were rendered by Messrs. A. C. Vallance, J. H. Franklin, Hankinson, Whitehead, Hedley, Reekie, and Emly; and recitations by Messrs. Makinson and Humphries. Mr. A. H. R. Balmforth officiated at the piano.

BRADFORD CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association, to the number of fifty or sixty, with their friends included, enjoyed a very pleasant social evening together on December 17 at the Imperial Hotel. Among those present were the President (Mr. Hanson, of Queensbury) and Mrs. Hanson, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Silson, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Waddington, Alderman Dunn and Miss Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. Newbold, and Mr. F. A. Wilcock (Hon. Secre-

tary). The entertainment chiefly took the form of a "ping-pong" tournament, in which thirty-two players took part, and which was played on four tables, the sets of apparatus for the game being given to the winners of each of the four sections. Songs were contributed by Miss Baines, of Queensbury, and instrumental music was rendered by what was described as the pharmaceutical band, and which composed of Messrs. Dunn, Firth, Sutcliffe, R. T. Silson, and Brigham, all of whom are members of the Association, and who had the assistance of only one outsider. In these pursuits the time passed very pleasantly, and much credit is due to the several members of the executive who had organised the "social."

NEWCASTLE CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The members and their friends dined together at the Hotel Metropole, Newcastle, on Wednesday evening, December 11, Mr. R. Wright (President) in the chair. The company numbered between fifty and sixty, including many ladies. After dinner the loyal toasts were enthusiastically honoured. Mr. T. Maltby Clague proposed "The Medical Profession," and in the course of his speech referred to the General Medical Council's action against West of Scotland doctors who employed unqualified assistants in their shops. Dr. George Murray, in responding to the toast, spoke happily of the relations between the medical profession and pharmacutists. He felt that the future of the pharmacist is very great, because, as years go by, more complicated and important remedies will have to be prepared. Just as the education and training of the medical profession are advancing, so the training, education, and examination of the pharmacutists will become more stringent. Councillor H. J. Turnbull proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," for which Mr. Charles Ridley responded; and Mr. A. W. Golightly proposed "The Newcastle and Kindred Chemists' Associations," to which Mr. W. Atkins and Mr. W. Kerse replied. Other toasts followed, and an excellent programme of music was rendered by Miss Edwardine Wilson, A.R.C.M., who gave selections on the harp; Mr. W. Atchinson, Mr. E. J. Gibbon, Mr. Edwin Craven, Mr. J. S. Hill, Mr. G. T. Atchinson, Mr. J. T. Kerse, and Mr. Edward Pattison.

GLASGOW SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.

The fourth annual supper of this school was held in the North British Station Hotel, Glasgow, on Friday evening, December 13. Over a hundred and twenty were present. Mr. J. Lothian presided, and Messrs. J. P. Taylor, N. Will, and P. Fenton were croupiers. The guests included Messrs. Peter Boa, J. R. Hill, and J. Beaumont (Edinburgh); W. L. Currie, J. Robb, W. Tait, and Dr. Pompé (Glasgow); and M. Meldrum (Irvine). After supper and the loyal toast, "The School" was submitted by Mr. W. L. Currie, who sketched its progress from twelve passes in 1897 to forty-three in 1901. In his reply, Mr. Lothian expressed approval of the new Preliminary examination, and declared himself ready to adapt himself to any fresh requirements of the higher pharmaceutical education. Mr. W. L. Currie then handed the Kinninmont gold medal to Mr. Lothian, as proxy for the winner, Mr. J. Hunter, Ph.C., London, and remarked that students of the school had carried off the medal for five years in succession. "The Pharmaceutical Society" was given by Mr. J. P. Gilmour, who in the course of his speech expressed the hope that the benefits of the Carnegie Trust would be secured for Scottish students of pharmacy. Mr. Boa, who replied, said it was important to remember that only students who pass under the new Preliminary examination are eligible to receive aid from the Carnegie Trust. The remaining toasts were "The Chairman," by Mr. Meldrum, whose rising was the signal for an ovation; "The Croupiers," spoken to by Mr. B. Cockburn, and acknowledged by Mr. Will; and "The Supper Committee," proposed by Mr. J. R. Hill, and responded to by Mr. J. P. Taylor. An entertainment of songs and readings of unusual merit was sustained by Messrs. McKerrrow, Gilmour, Watt, Currie, Gowans, MacLeod, Duncan, Fenton, Dickson, Riddell, and Fyfe, the accompaniments being played by Messrs. Kennedy and Hepburn.

THE red colouration in carbolic acid is due, according to Walter, to the action of ozone or hydrogen peroxide and traces of iron, contained in the container or acid itself.

The Galen Glee-club.

THIRD NIGHT.—THE TRIOLET.

WHEN our brave Leaders rise at Duty's call,
And boldly beard the glib Provinc-ial,
The gay Ricardo tempted e'en to sing,
Catches the Oof-Bird fluttering on the wing,
Cages him carefully; wends his weary way
Far into lands beyond the light of day.
Summons he swift the Faithful dwelling there,
Singles the Sheep from—other sorts—with care,
Then while the Faithless in blissful sleep are curled,
Bursts forth A CONFERENCE on the astonished world.

Leaders from Yorkshire, Ryemers, old and Young,
Wag windy platitudes on never-failing tongue;
Audiences spellbound, drinking words like wine,
Rise in a frenzy (sometimes there are nine!)
Thirst for the blood of the traitorous ones who dare
To hunt with the hounds or to run with the hare;
Yet hold intruders oft-times have their say,
Blurting out Truths in an inconvenient way,
Vexing good souls, who in trembling and in fear
Seek that their deeds shall in darkness disappear.

"Conclave in secret," this their main desire,
"We can't withstand the fierce unchastened fire
Of public expression, so we must agree
To meet in holes and corners—and thus help True Pharmacy."
Grim gloats Ricardo, ponderous Schreiber booms:
"Bury the Wild Ass in everlasting tombs,"
Echoes Gyffardo, apostle once of speech,
Trained now to silence, daring not to teach
Leaders of learning he in past time scarified
In manner judged "indecent"; now rides he on the Tide.

Thus, on a night when fog and storm without
Tried, but in vain, the festive ones to rout
Gossipped the Elect round Ricardo's hearth,
Dreaming of Heaven, but holding to the Earth.
The Spirit of Song descended on them, yea
On those who as Angels posed on pediments of clay;
And in due time their clarion voices rang,
Cutting the fog with a keen Lancastrian twang;
'Raptured, we wreathed their brows with violets,
What time they warbled these two triolets:—

THE WHISPER OF THE RYMER.

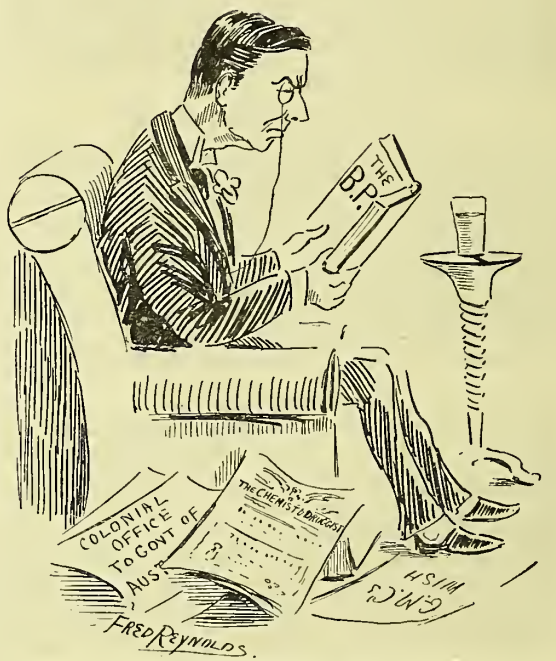
Let us each to other whisper,
We must ne'er our deeds proclaim,
Traitor he who speaks for fame.
Let us each to other whisper
While the night hawk shrills his lay
We must shun the light of day;
Let us each to other whisper
Lest the myths be swept away.

THE SILENCE OF THE SEER.

"Speech is silver, silence golden,"
Thus the Seer of Other Days;
Once I scorned, but now I praise.
Speech is silver, silence golden,
Take to heart the lesson learned,
Through much travail truth I earned;
Speech is silver, silence golden,
Gone the yearnings that I earned.

PHARMACY IN FICTION.—The *feuilleton* is an integral part of the French daily Press, and the best informed and edited journals do not despise this means of increasing their circulation. Just now the *Eclair* is publishing a *feuilleton*, by M. Edmond Lepelletier, whose speciality is Napoleonic historical romances. Its title, "The Last Napoleon," evidently alludes to the Prince Imperial, and the scene in the opening chapters is laid at Chislehurst at the time Napoleon III. was operated on for stone. He is lying in a semi-conscious state after the operation with a glass of chloral at his bed-head, when a spectral hand changes it for something else. The attendant Smithson is dozing at the time. He wakes and gives the Emperor the substituted draught, and then goes to sleep again and dreams that "Sir Henry Thomson, in spite of his proverbial stinginess, has trebled the promised recompense." Evidently those who wish to learn how the fates of empires may be changed by phials of pharmacy should read the palpitating romance of M. E. L.—with a grain of salt by preference.

"C. & D." Nursery Rhymes.



Joseph and the B.P.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, as Colonial Secretary, has interested himself in the British Pharmacopœia.—C. & D. December 14 pages 941 and 947.

There was a man who feared for naught;
The Rads once thought they had him;
But on Home Rule he'd not be caught,
And now the Tories fad him.
He's fought and striven many a year
The Premiership to land it,
The Great B.P. has given him cheer,
But *ours*—he can't withstand it.
He thought none better understood
The B.P.'s ways and fancies,
But our Red Book provides him food
For intellectual trances.
His brilliant coruscations shine
When bad Pro-Boers he lectures,
But he can ne'er the ways divine
Of Food and Drug Inspectors.
He'll smoothly probe the inmost mind
Of haughty Lord of Hatfield,
"Tis hard," saith he, "much gold to find
In clippings culled by Attfield."
O'er all the dreadful book he pores,
At last resolves to burke it;
So weariedly he sleeps and snores,
And dreams of B.P. orchid.

Note on Pepper.

By F. H. ALCOCK, F.I.C.

A SAMPLE of the above was brought by one of our lady students as an exercise in microscopy. Her friends had decided there was something wrong with it, and would not use it for culinary purposes. Its odour and taste, they said, were unusual, and this was found to be so by those more likely to know. The peculiarity proved to be due to the presence of powdered fenugreek-seeds, present to the extent of between 15 and 20 per cent. It had been supplied by the family grocer.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The Liverpool Chemists' Association

has always been distinguished among similar bodies by its tone-y character. It never discusses trade topics, and knows nothing of smoking-concerts. It used to indulge in one annual frivolity, which took the form of a scientific *conversazione*, with "lemonade and tea, and rocks and things to see," but this, I fancy, has in late years yielded to the more substantial dinner. Perhaps the boys and girls used to flirt while the lantern-lectures were proceeding, and that would never do for Liverpool. Now the L.C.A.'s scientific glory has been sealed and signed in the face of the pharmaceutical world by a grand vivisectional demonstration, its members have been addressed as "pharmacologists," and, consequently, the "odour of learning" enveloping them should henceforth set them apart among their fellow citizens.

The Savant's Reputation

can be got cheap at the present day. In old times it was secured by displaying a stuffed crocodile; the coloured bottles and the golden mortar were but a poor continuation; but the modern method is the easiest and most effective of all. It consists simply in being a fierce advocate of vivisection. A sneer at the "anti" people, and an allusion to Pasteur, and to locomotor ataxy, or some other modern disorganisation, are all the outfit that is necessary. But it is as well to remember at the same time that the "anti" people are callous to sneers, and that they have on their side the substantial advantage of an Act of Parliament, and the Hon. Stephen Coleridge as their zealous and lynx-eyed secretary.

Professor Sherrington

must know the Cruelty to Animals Act, 1876, much better than I do, and I can hardly suppose he would deliberately infringe it. But how he can reconcile that Liverpool lecture of his with its provisions is more than I can understand. The pulsations of the heart of a frog under chloroform, the inoculation of rabbits with cobra venom and with antivenom, and other experiments were shown to the chemists. Professor Sherrington is a licensed vivisectioner, and the lecture was given, I understand, in a place registered under the Act. But these conditions are not sufficient. The Act requires that every experiment coming within its definition "must be performed with a view to the advancement by new discovery of physiological knowledge, or of knowledge which will be useful for saving or prolonging life, or of alleviating suffering"; such experiments may not be performed to illustrate lectures in medical schools, hospitals, colleges, or elsewhere, except by special certificate granted on the evidence that they are absolutely necessary for the due instruction of physiological students; and it expressly forbids altogether "any exhibition to the general public whether admitted on payment of money, or gratuitously, of experiments on animals calculated to give pain." I am afraid even Liverpool chemists are only "general public" in the eye of the law, and if so it would seem as if Professor Sherrington, with Miss Sowton and Dr. Grünbaum, who aided him, are all liable to penalties not exceeding 50*l.* each.

The Companies

charged with selling methylated soap-liniment as soap-liniment, are defending their reputations by raising technical points with plenty of ingenuity, and at lavish

expense. We have only so far got at the merits of the dispute in Parke's case, but the final decision is not yet in sight, even in that instance. Mr. D'Eyncourt's gallant but ill-judged attempt to cut short the defence, has only promoted delay. This is how it has worked: After convicting in one case the Magistrate invited the defendant to submit evidence which he had previously rejected, but only when he knew that his judgment was to be challenged. Now he hears a precisely similar case against another defendant. He can hardly listen to his evidence with an unbiassed mind. But suppose in this second case he should be convinced by it? He would, of course, dismiss the summons. What then about the conviction against the first defendant?

Messrs. F. Newbery & Son

have done a lot of good service as intermediaries between the Board of Inland Revenue and chemists, and they are right to hold the balance even between the two interests. But they need not be too fair to the enemy. That "tonic blood-purifying mixture" for instance; the Board says it is liable because it is referred to on the label as this "celebrated" mixture, and has "courteously intimated" that liability would cease if that one word were removed. I, for one, should not be insane enough to fight the Board for that blessed adjective, for it is of no commercial value on the label. But I am pretty certain I should win if I did; assuredly there is nothing in the statute when strictly construed which can justify the Board's claim in such a case. Alpe's justification of the Board's contention in this respect has always struck me as inconclusive.

Mr. Pentney

writes so pleasantly that I am almost sorry not to apologise to him about that Metropolitan Association. But I hardly think I misrepresented him or his coadjutors. And I am not sure that I like his alternative policy of forming an Association "to strengthen and support the Pharmaceutical Society and stimulate it to further exertions to protect the interests of chemists" quite as well as his other one. If I pay a guinea a year to the Society I ought not to have to pay another half-guinea to another Society to see that it does its work. The radical weakness of the metropolitan scheme is that it has no defined purpose. This difficulty will probably not deter the brave committee for long, especially as we are told that eighty London chemists have consented to subscribe to it without any disclosure of the objects aimed at. I hope it will not offend anybody if I recall the well-known story of the adventurer who, when the South Sea Company had sent England crazy with a gambling mania, opened an office in London as "a company for carrying on an undertaking of great advantage, but nobody to know what it is." I am not suggesting any parallel in the schemes, for I am sure Mr. Pentney and his friends are only working for the common good; but perhaps as a matter of interest I may finish the story. The office was only opened for a single day, but in that time over 2,000*l.* had been paid in; and the schemer was satisfied, and decamped in the night.

"Pathological Chemists"

as sketched in the new CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY are not likely to be numerous for a long time to come, but a few of them would be very useful to the community, and there are signs that such knowledge as is indicated will come gradually into strong demand. The training of a pharmacist goes a fair way towards the necessary equipment, but the DIARY treatises show clearly that much specialising is necessary before it would be safe to assume the title suggested. I would myself be glad to see the Major examination adapted to such knowledge, but there is no early prospect of this being arranged. The articles serve as an admirable chart, and it is useful for one bent on the study to have the titles of so many standard books on the several subjects. But some practical laboratory-work seems to be essential before a student could hold himself out with sufficient confidence as a pathological chemist. Are there any convenient opportunities for him to take this?

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Editorial Comments.

Stamping Medicines.

THROUGH the courtesy of the Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue we have had the privilege of inquiring into the working of the Department charged with the administration of the medicine-stamp duty, and of submitting some of the complaints brought against the Department by the drug-trade, especially in respect to recent supposed vagaries of interpretation. We are pleased to state, at the outset, that the Board has not changed to any material extent the principles upon which it administers a law that undoubtedly gives more extensive powers than have ever been enforced; and, except that the administration of the Acts and the interpretation of the liability or otherwise of printed matter respecting medicines has been transferred from the Solicitor's Department to the Board itself, exactly the same principles and procedure are followed as when the late Mr. Alpe wrote his "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty" about fourteen years ago. If there have appeared at any time differences between Mr. Alpe's statements and the Board's interpretations (and these are of the rarest possible occurrence), they may be put down to those slight differences of opinion which are natural to successive individuals who, in the course of office changes, are in turn charged with the onerous task of marking labels, &c., or of deciding whether unstamped articles should be stamped. We are glad, therefore, to assure those who have Alpe's "Handy-book" that it is a trustworthy guide, and the fact that it is used in Somerset House, and was frequently quoted during our inquiry, is sufficient proof of its value. On another point which is the cause of much uncertainty in the wholesale and retail trade we can give some comfort—viz., that the present exceptional activity of Excise officers in bringing infringements of the Acts under the notice of the Board is not due to any desire to squeeze more out of the tax than has previously been demanded, but is one of those departmental moves which are periodically taken in order to counteract the looseness into which every body is prone to fall as to the payment of taxes. It may be a well to add that the Board does not take action unless when articles complained of are purchased by Excise officers whose duty it is to look after this matter as well as other taxes, such as the dog-tax, purity of tobacco, and so on. These officers get no share of the fine nor is any special inducement held out to them to trap offenders: it is simply a part of their business, and the better they do it the better for them when promotions are in the air. The present raid, if we may so call it, has brought many offenders to book, and it is

worthy of note that the worst offenders are the large stores, who appear to be somewhat careless in pushing the sales of their own specialties—in fact, it appears that many deliberately refrain from stamping because they find it pays them to take the risk of so doing. The average retail chemist is not, in the Board's experience, a notorious offender, and the majority of offences are committed in ignorance. During the past month the Department has been inundated with applications for decisions on labels and other printed matter referring to medicines. Some examples were brought under our notice which induce us to give the trade a few hints.

First.—The practice of the Board to mark things "Liable" or "Not liable" is a concession to the drug-trade, and not a departmental duty imposed by the Acts. The Board is no more called upon to mark a label than it is to tell whether a dog has or has not reached the age for a licence.

Second.—Many in the trade abuse the concession by pouring into Somerset House samples of all the labels in their shops, including furniture-cream and veterinary-medicine labels. The Board is of opinion that chemists are sufficiently intelligent to tell whether their labels, handbills, showcards, or other printed matter recommend or hold out the medicines or articles to which they are applied for the prevention, relief, or cure of any ailment, complaint, or malady to which the human body is subject. Only the doubtful labels need be submitted to the Board, and never in sheaves. The Board does not undertake to mark all labels, &c., sent to Somerset House. The officers have recently been so overburdened with this duty that it has seriously been considered whether it should be continued. We therefore strongly advise the trade to be judicious in their selection of what is to be sent to Somerset House. We are always pleased to express our opinion on any labels submitted to us, and to weed out those which are not doubtful.

Third.—Many who send labels to Somerset House neglect to send specimens of other printed matter, with the result that occasionally an article having a "not liable" label is held to be liable on account of printed matter which recommends. In every instance sellers should be careful to use only such printed matter as has been submitted to the Board if they wish to ensure non-liability. In this connection we quote the following from Alpe's supplement:—

The official regulations, which must be strictly complied with, are as follows:—

Labels sent to Somerset House for the opinion of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue should be accompanied by all other printed or manuscript matter which relates to the preparation in question, and such labels and printed and manuscript matter should be sent in duplicate, one copy of the labels being left ungummed and not affixed to paper.

The ungummed copy will be returned to the sender marked "Liable to duty," or "Not liable to duty," as the case may be. It is to be understood, of course, that this marking indicates the opinion of the Commissioners only as to the label or handbill on which it is impressed; and if any printed or manuscript matter in the nature of a "public notice or advertisement," or "written or printed papers or handbills," or "label or words written or printed, affixed to or delivered with" the medicine has not been submitted to the Commissioners, or if the text of such printed or manuscript matter is subsequently altered, the marking ceases to be valid.

A few observations on examples recently submitted to us may not be out of place. Several labels for toilet preparations had led to some inquiry, with the result that we find it to be quite a common practice to recommend tooth powders, pastes, and washes for ailments or complaints of teeth and gums; hair-preparations are not infrequently said to ward off headache, and so on. In such cases the preparations are liable to stamp-duty. Again, it is quite a common supposition that a malady, complaint, or ailment must be mentioned in order to incur the duty. This overlooks the fact mentioned

by Alpe that "the use of the names of the organs of the body in connection with medicines must be held to mean and include the diseases to which such organs are subject." An example of this is provided in a label for embrocation with the following directions for using:—

For the Back and Limbs.—Well rub in with the hand night and morning, or at any other convenient time.

For the Throat or Chest.—Well rub in with the hand at night, and place a piece of flannel over the part, or sop a piece of flannel in the embrocation and apply to the chest until smarting is produced.

For Athletes.—After exercise the embrocation may be rubbed well in with the hand for several minutes, any bruised part being previously bathed with hot water.

This label is said to have been passed years ago as "not liable" (although the words "bruised part" alone suffice to condemn it), but has now been held to be liable. "What does 'the man in the street' deduce from that label?" asked the courteous gentleman who personified the Board to us. "He does not use embrocation for his back, limbs, throat, or chest when they are well, so he infers that it is a good thing for them when they are ill. Such inferences determine the incidence of the taxation." This is another example of "holding-out" which we discussed three months ago. In all cases where there is doubt the solicitor's department at Somerset House advises the Commissioners, and every case of infringement is considered on its merits.

Since the foregoing was written we have received a letter from Mr. J. B. Donaldson (Armour & Co.) regarding the label for indigestion and liver mixture (*C. & D.*, December 7, page 921). He was able to produce the original manuscript, with the identical wording which had been stamped at Somerset House and passed as not liable to stamp-duty, and was at once assured by the Secretary in the Stamp Department that all action which has been taken against any chemists using these labels will be withdrawn. We may add that in any case where similar evidence can be produced in regard to other articles the Board will not go back upon a previous decision, unless it has been a flagrant error of judgment.

The Scottish Jubilee.

THE foundation of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, which has been celebrated in Edinburgh this week, is described elsewhere in this issue, and in general terms. We have not attempted to deal with the several disputes which have occurred between North and South Britain in regard to pharmaceutical matters. These have occasionally given a piquancy to pharmaceutical life, which otherwise might have been dull, and they appear not to have damaged the body politic, for the Society has grown steadily stronger in Scotland. When, early in 1851, Aberdeen chemists discovered that Jacob Bell, as the Parliamentary representative of the Society, was to legislate for pharmacy in Great Britain without providing any local habitation for Scotch pharmacy, they protested, and the five-and-twenty members of the Society in and around Edinburgh followed suit so vigorously that the Lord Advocate and Sir William Gibson Craig, M.P., proposed an addition to the Pharmacy Bill, which provided for a Board of Examiners in Scotland. Then the Society's membership in Scotland was a mere bagatelle; but it increased so well during John Mackay's lifetime that in 1881 there were 210 members and associates in business in Scotland, or a seventeenth of the voting-power of the Society. It went on increasing to 292 in 1886 (when Mr. Hill assumed office), although the Society's membership had diminished in the meantime, and to-day it stands at 638, or fully a ninth of the Society's voting-power. If the political influence of this membership

were proportionately greater than that of the handful that Jacob Bell had to negotiate with in 1851, the Council of the Society has in it an unexampled Parliamentary power; but times change, and men with them. Why Jacob Bell was so eager to compromise with Scottish pharmacists in 1851 is difficult to comprehend. He aimed, it is true, for an Act which would apply to the United Kingdom, and his friendship with John Mackay, as well as the fact that the Society's charter gave it a title which included Scotland, made it advisable to add the examiners' clause rather than one saying, "This Act shall not extend to Scotland." We dare say it would have been in some respects awkward for the Society if Scotland had been left out; but it would have been a calamity to Scottish pharmacists if, like the famous Macdougall, they had had a boat of their own. Separation would have meant, as is the case with Ireland, an independent qualification not recognised south of the Border, and this to Scottish pharmacists, who are as numerous outside their native country as they are in it, would have been a serious hardship. We speak from acquaintance with Scottish pharmacists in all parts of the world, and do not hesitate to say that the Minor certificate is the open sesame to practice everywhere in the Empire except Ireland and New South Wales, and were England to make a trio of disqualification, the ranks of Scottish pharmacy would become much congested and scarcely worth being in. That is the position which was averted fifty years ago by the foresight and wisdom of the few capable Scotchmen who then had the ear of the Legislature, and it is a fitting accomplishment to celebrate. Happily disunion is no longer contemplated in Scotland; the Society's strength there has passed the breaking-point, and while the North and South may go on satisfied that union is best for both, neither should ever forget that it will be a bad day for each when one becomes so antagonistic to the other as to threaten legislative separation.

Army Medical Reform.

IN the *Outlook* of December 14 a "high authority" writing from Germany criticises Mr. Brodrick's scheme for the reform of the Army Medical Service. He agrees that the appointment of an Advisory Board is a necessity, but provided that purely internal questions are excluded from its duties, he sees no reason why a far greater number of civilian consultants should not be admitted. In order to make the Board an efficient and truly representative organisation he suggests that appointments to the posts of consulting physicians and surgeons to the Army should be made in times of peace by the Crown, acting on the advice of the Secretary of State or Director-General, such appointments being honorary, and given to the most eminent practitioners and scientists of the day throughout the whole Kingdom. In times of war only such men as have held the appointment should be eligible for active service. The Advisory Board should be established on a broader basis than that proposed, and by attaching the leading men of the medical profession to the R.A.M.C. its moral standard would be considerably raised. Moreover, the Director-Generalship should be a permanent post. Having regard to the *personnel*, the writer points out that the experience of Germany has shown that successful examinations are no proof of the candidates' practical proficiency, and in that country the examination system for purposes of promotion has been completely abandoned. He thinks the number of examinations set forward in the scheme, their wide range, and the fatal consequences to unsuccessful candidates, will repel, and not attract, men to enter the Service. His proposals in this connection are that young men should be induced to join the R.A.M.C. by giving

them scholarships. During their candidature their medical and social qualifications should be tested, and by frequent scientific courses and liberal grants of "study leave" officers should be stimulated to replenish and increase their knowledge. Promotion should take place by seniority, but subject to confidential reports from various civil as well as military sources, up to the rank of lieutenant-colonel. All higher posts should be granted, without regard to seniority, on grounds of general merit or distinction with the Service, by the Director-General.

"A START AND A FINISH."

Several of our subscribers send us copies of a leaflet so entitled, which has been posted in America by the Antikamnia Chemical Company of St. Louis, U.S.A., to chemists in this country. It is "a parable" about the "real live substitutor," and is apparently written for distribution in the United States. It is totally inapplicable to our conditions of trading, and is a low and vulgar composition such as no British house of standing would think of putting into a printer's hands, far less distributing. We are not surprised to learn that Mr. John Morgan Richards, the agent in London, utterly disapproves of the circular, and was unaware of its existence until it had been distributed.

A "STANDARD" ARTICLE.

A good deal of nonsense has been printed recently regarding the Poisons Committee, but the *Evening Standard* has made a bold bid for first place in that regard by suggesting that

the reform of the Pharmacy Act should take the direction rather of increasing the liability of chemists than of punishing the delinquent [purchaser] after the mischief has been done. Prevention is the best of all remedies, and the quickest method of checking the free distribution of poisons is to put the responsibility on the shoulders of the retailer.

If our contemporary had studied the matter at all seriously, it would have learnt long ere now that chemists and druggists have as a body guarded the distribution of poisons so well that the majority of deaths occurring from poison have been caused by those over which the Pharmacy Act has no control.

THE COMPOSITION OF FOG.

Sir W. Thistleton Dyer, Director of Kew Gardens, being curious as to the chemical composition of fogs, collected for analysis the deposits left on the glass roofs of the plant-houses at Chelsea and at Kew. He found carbon, hydrocarbons, organic bases, sulphuric and hydrochloric acids ammonia, metallic iron, and magnetic oxide, and other mineral ingredients, principally silica and ferric oxide—the first-named in the proportion of 39 per cent., and the latter to the extent of 31.24 per cent. In view of recent endeavours to eliminate, or at least to ameliorate, the effects of London fogs, it might be well that further chemical investigations should be instituted.

POWDERED MILK.

Some paragraphs have been going the rounds of the newspapers in regard to the remarkable achievement of an expert in Copenhagen who has devised a process for reducing milk to powder. One writer (in the "Daily Bounder") gives the world at large a caution in the following terms:—

Any scientist will tell you that no process has been discovered yet for reducing milk to powder and yet retaining all its nutritive properties.

It is not possible at present to reduce the butter fats in milk to powder, and therefore people who are supposed to buy powdered milk should pay less for it than for ordinary milk, and should also remember they will not get nearly so beneficial a substitute.

It is about ten years since we described commercial condensed milk in powder, and we think that was not the first time it was placed on the market, where it has been ever

since, and largely used, too, we have been told. It is curious how the excitement is worked up by daily journalists in quest for tit-bits. This is a case in point.

THE CHEMIST'S TITLE.

Mr. J. D. Marshall, chemist and druggist, Wigmore Street, W., takes the *Lancet* to task for indicating a dispensing chemist by the title druggist, as follows:—

Do you not think it would be better to call a dispensing chemist a "pharmacist" instead of a druggist? There is considerable difference between a druggist and a chemist and druggist. A druggist vends drugs without any legal qualifications whatever; members of our corporation who have an exceedingly severe pupillage and stringent examination to pass before qualifying to dispense try to raise its tone, and the word "pharmacist" is more appropriate to use, as in France the "pharmacien." I am afraid that your note would lead your readers to suppose that any druggist, or vendor of herbs, &c., is qualified to dispense physicians' prescriptions, which are invariably returned to the patient by a pharmacist.

Mr. Marshall does not mention, however, that the title "pharmacist" is reserved to pharmaceutical chemists by Section XV. of the Pharmacy Act, 1868. What is wanted is a short euphonious term to designate those trained and skilled in pharmacy, which can be used both by pharmaceutical chemists and chemists and druggists.

PUTTING ON SCENT.

An entertaining article in a recent issue of the *Westminster Gazette* deals daintily with the question of perfumery. The writer, who must surely be a lady, is very scornful of the indiscriminate use of perfumes by the fair sex, and eloquently advocates a more delicate discrimination in this as in other matters of taste. For instance:—

Let us suppose that rare combination the perfectly-bred woman, who is at the same time highly cultivated and of delicate æsthetic fibre—she doesn't do this sort of thing, ever. She does not "put on" scent at all. That fascinating minx Elizabeth, who has been accepted by society as a type of the perfect *ingénue*, she, alas! talked of people "putting on" scent. She was wrong. The right people do not "put on" scent. The faintest zephyr may be disengaged as a fine queen passes—it does not come out of a flacon with a cut stopper, a pale-green bow on the top, and a lie on the side which implicates white roses or lilies of the valley. Not a bit of it. The same queen's laces will be housed in drawers out of which the dust is kept by a huge sachet, the size of the drawer-top; into this orris-root (as bought in dark-blue packets at the Louvre or anywhere in Paris) has been sprinkled. Lavender may take the place of it; so, by the most exquisite, I could believe the wood-ruff, gathered in full flower and dried, would be appreciated. A still nicer way to treat a drawer is to have pasted on the inner woodwork fine linen; upon this the fold of cotton-wool with the preferred powder between and satin on the top, with a loose piece from the back to come over. Every garment so sheltered will emerge breathing gently of odours no laundry ever knew. And only fine and fresh odours can be so used; there should be less a scent than a faint, elusive fragrance.

She (if we may take the liberty) goes on unkindly to suggest that women whose place in life is something higher than a young clerk's "young lady" should be content to smell merely clean. This appears somewhat inconsistent with the advice tendered in the foregoing paragraph as to the scenting of dresses, but the writer, being, perhaps, on the "something-higher" plane, cannot understand the craving of town-tied girls for the sweet perfumes of flowers which their "place in life" prevents them from cultivating.

THE exports of drugs, chemicals, dye, and medicines from the United States during the nine months ended September, 1901, amounted in value to \$10,722,000, against \$10,214,000 for the same period of 1900.

It is rather funny, says the *Pelican*, to read that the diminution in the profits of Lewis & Burrows (Limited), the all-over-the-place chemists, is set down to the death of Queen Victoria and the War. To argue that people for these reasons ceased to take physic is certainly humorous.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. GRIMWADE, RIDLEY & Co. have removed from 82 Bishopsgate Street, E.C., to Muscovy House, 6 Trinity Square, E.C.

MESSRS. T. & H. SMITH & Co., of Edinburgh and London, are closing their London offices from Tuesday evening, December 24, to Monday, December 30.

MESSRS. SOUTHALL BROTHERS & BARCLAY (LIMITED), Birmingham, have been awarded a gold medal for the excellence of their aerated waters at the Birmingham Polytechnic exhibition.

OLIVE OIL.—Mr. Frederick Boehm, 16 Jewry Street, E.C., has compiled a pamphlet on "Olive Oil: its Sources, Production, Character, and Uses," which contains much apparently useful information, and we hope to refer to it again.

"MONEY-MAKING ADVERTISING."—Mr. Richard Lee (Lee's Advertising Agency (Limited), 26 Ludgate Hill, E.C.) has published a new edition of his "Money-making Advertising," which gives in fifty-six pages original and useful hints to advertisers and those who should advertise. Mr. Lee will send a copy to any of our subscribers who asks for it.

CALENDARS FOR 1902.—Messrs. Newball & Mason, manufacturing chemists, Hyson Green Works, Nottingham, are sending out their card-calendars for 1902. There are two distinct designs—a harvest-field and a naval scene—both advertising Mason's extract of herbs, coffee-essence, and wine-essences. Chemists requiring a supply of the calendars should write to Messrs. Newball & Mason.

"TRADE-MARK NOTES" is the title of a little booklet by Mr. Reginald W. Barker, F.S.P.A., 56 Ludgate Hill, E.C., in which he describes concisely the conditions upon which trade-marks are registered, and gives hints which appear to us to be especially suitable for chemists and druggists. A copy of the "Notes" may be obtained by any of our subscribers on application to Mr. Barker.

"FIT FOR THE KING" is the motto which the Royal Standard Wine Company, Oxford Mansions, London, W.C., have placed as a motto upon an excellent portrait of King Edward VII, which they have adopted as a showcard for their wines. Mr. Holloway (who is the company) sends the picture, framed in oak and gold, to his customers. Along with the picture he sends us a brilliant red morocco pocket-book, which has the "Standard" brand upon it, and this note is written with the pencil. There are more of the books and showcards to be had.

PLASMON COOKERY-BOOK.—International Plasmon (Limited), 56 Duke Street, London, W., have collected over 100 useful recipes for tasty dishes in which plasmon forms an ingredient. We can conceive few things more useful to those who are charged with the nursing of the sick than these hints for new and nutritious dishes. The recipes are the result of a competition at the last Universal Cookery and Food Exhibition. The book is priced 1s., but International Plasmon (Limited) are willing to send a few free copies to retailers who will judiciously distribute them.

MESSRS. BAISS BROTHERS & STEVENSON (LIMITED), Jewry Street, E.C., send us a specimen of their export price-list which is devoted to B.P.C. Formulary preparations, coated pills, concentrated liquors, disinfectants, fluid extracts, lozenges, malted food, medicated wine, popular remedies, powdered drugs, soluble essences, sundries, compressed tablets, and tinctures in bond. The catalogue is well arranged and gives terms per lb. and in bulk quantities, the advantages in the latter case being such as will be appreciated by export buyers. The list contains many special preparations, and copies of it will be sent to any of our subscribers who drop a postcard to the firm. We may also note that Messrs. Baiss Brothers & Stevenson's have added to their "Pinesyl" series an excellent "Pinesyl" toilet soap, made with a superfatted pure-soap basis richly perfumed with the antiseptic and disinfectant "Pinesyl." The soap is particularly agreeable to wash with and leaves a fine perfume in the bathroom or bedroom. From the seller's point of view it is a good article, as it is tastefully put up in dozen boxes, each cake being wrapped and labelled.

Legal Reports.

Pharmacy Act (1868).

DR. STEELE SMITH SCORES A POINT.

IN the Glasgow Sheriff Court on Tuesday, December 17, before Sheriff Fyfe, Dr. John Steele Smith, 482A Springburn Road, Glasgow, was charged at the instance of Mr. Richard Bremridge, Registrar under the Pharmacy Act, with having on October 2 sold to Mary Jane Ross, 394 Duke Street, without entering in the poison-book, a quantity of strychnine as an ingredient in Fellows's syrup, and she being a person unknown to him and not introduced. He was also charged with failing to label the bottle containing the poison distinctly with his name.

Mr. Morison, S.S.O., Edinburgh, prosecuted for the Pharmaceutical Society.

Respondent, who appeared on his own behalf, pleaded guilty, but formally objected to complainant's title to sue.

Sheriff Fyfe asked the prosecutor's agent whether this was not to be taken as a test case. He understood that it was to be so.

Mr. Morison said it was perfectly clear that the Act meant the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society to enforce the whole provisions of the statute, and Section 17, under which the case was brought, was one in which the Society had no pecuniary interest, but was one in the interests of the public, prescribing as it did a number of precautions which must be taken in connection with the sale of poison. It was right that he should say there was a considerable deal of doubt as to the question of title to sue, and the practice was not the same in different courts. A number of officers in the country took one view and others took the other view.

The Sheriff pointed out that in 1895 he himself had held that the Society had no title to sue, and whether he was right or wrong he was afraid he could hardly go back on that judgment. On that occasion the matter was pretty fully argued out, Mr. Rowland appearing on the one side, and counsel appearing for the Society. As the present charge was libelled entirely under Section 17, and as it was a very good thing to follow precedent, especially one's own precedent, he would sustain the objection and throw out the complaint.

Mr. Morison asked a case to be stated for the High Court.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

BORIC-ACID OINTMENT.

HAY'S CITY DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED), 8 New Broad Street, was summoned at the Guildhall Police Court on Monday, December 16, for selling 3 oz. of boric-acid ointment deficient in acid. The facts were admitted, but it was stated that as this ointment was a mixture, the error was in no way beneficial to the person who sold it, as the paraffinum molle was as dear as, if not dearer than, boric acid. The analyst's certificate showed that in this instance there was 2 parts more of paraffin than the B.P. standard. Alderman Vaughan Morgan imposed a fine of 40s. and 19s. 6d. costs.

SOAP-LINIMENT.

AT North London Police Court on December 13, Richard Trice, chemist, Dalston Lane, was summoned for selling soap-liniment which was certified by Mr. Leo Taylor, F.I.C., the public analyst, to be made with methylated spirit instead of rectified spirit. In his evidence, Mr. Taylor said the sample was undoubtedly prepared with methylated spirit; but to be pure and genuine, according to the British Pharmacopœia, it should be prepared with rectified spirit. There was a considerable difference in the price of the two preparations, the wholesale price of the rectified-spirit preparation being 3s. per lb., and that prepared with methylated spirit only about 10d. per lb. In reply to the Magistrate, Mr. Taylor said that, for external application he did not think it would make much difference whether the liniment was prepared with methylated or rectified spirit.

Mr. Beck (for Mr. Trice) said the defence was that the liniment was purchased from the wholesale dealers as pure, and guaranteed as such. He would like the third sample

to be sent to the Government Laboratory for an opinion, and deposited a guinea in court to pay the cost of such independent analysis. The Magistrate adjourned the case for eight weeks, remarking that it seemed a trifling complaint.

MR. RALPH HALL, chemist, Kingsland Road, was similarly charged. The evidence was the same as in the preceding case.

Mr. Bramall, solicitor to the Islington Borough Council, said he had been fighting a similar case at Clerkenwell, and suggested that the Magistrate might hold over his decision until the High Court had given an opinion.

Mr. Fordham said this second sample was also going to Somerset House for an independent test as to its genuineness, and he would adjourn the further hearing for eight weeks.

ON Wednesday, December 18, at the North London Police Court, Mr. E. S. Fordham gave his decision in the case of Taylor's Drug Company (Limited) whose registered offices are at Leeds, and who had been summoned for selling soap-liniment at a branch establishment, at Holloway, which was deficient in the essential camphor. The Islington Borough Council were the prosecutors, and the sole point of dispute was as to whether the summons had been served within the twenty-eight days mentioned as the limit in Section 19 of the Food and Drugs Act. As already reported, there had been long argument on this point. The original summons was served at High Holborn, which was supposed to be the chief office of the company; but when it was shown that the chief office was at Leeds a fresh summons was obtained, and duly served in Leeds. Then, it was contended by the defendants, the prosecution was out of time. Mr. Fordham, in his decision, said he had considered all the points taken *pro* and *con* as to what constituted the commencement of proceedings. Some said that the proceedings commenced when the fact was brought to the notice of the defendant or the apprehension of the prisoner. But these cases he did not consider applied to this case. He looked specially at the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and saw that there was a limit to the time in which proceedings might be taken. And this was a logical view, because an indefinite period with an article which would deteriorate in time would spoil the seller's chance of defence. There was no doubt the complainants might have, with a little care, found out the real registered office of the defendant company, and thus have brought the commencement of proceedings within the legal period as defined by Section 19 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899. There was no doubt that this provision in the Act was specially included so as to deal with changeable articles, such as the essential spirits in this case, which were calculated to change with keeping. An indefinite period between the time of purchasing the article and serving the summons would greatly militate against the chances of a defendant to answer the analyst's certificate. Therefore, as the proceedings in this case were not commenced within twenty-eight days of the service of the summons, he (the Magistrate) would dismiss the summons, with 5l. 5s. costs. Mr. Sanders asked leave to appeal, which Mr. Fordham granted.

METHYLATED BELLADONNA LINIMENT.

ON December 18, at Highgate Police Court, before a full Bench, with Sir John Glover as Chairman, a summons was heard against Park's Drug-stores (Limited), for the sale, at their Camden Town branch, of defective liniment of belladonna. Mr. Bridge, who conducted the case for the prosecution, put in the Medical Acts showing the legal authority for the Pharmacopœia, and as to its production in evidence, and also called the attention of the Bench to the 15th section of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which, he said, made it an offence to compound any medicines of the British Pharmacopœia except according to the formularies of the said Pharmacopœia. He proceeded to argue the law relating to the Pharmacopœia as a standard, when the Chairman asked Mr. Beck (who appeared for the defence) if the point raised by Mr. Bridge was disputed. Mr. Beck said he admitted that the Pharmacopœia was published under authority, and that a copy of it was evidence for certain purposes, also that the Pharmacy Act laid it down that articles purporting to be B.P. should be compounded in

accordance with the Pharmacopœia. Mr. Bridge said the points raised by him might be disputed, and he was anxious to make his case as strong as possible. Mr. Vernon, the inspector who purchased the sample, said he asked for 8 oz. of liniment of belladonna. He was told by the assistant who served him, that they had none of the B.P. article in stock, but that they had methylated belladonna-liniment. Mr. Bridge said he sent one of the samples to Mr. Bevan, the public analyst, and received from him the certificate which he handed to the Magistrates. It contained the following statement:—

I am of opinion that it is deficient in alkaloids of belladonna to the extent of 40 per cent. This opinion is based on the fact that 100 c.c. contained only 0.22 gramme of alkaloids, whereas it should have contained 0.375 gramme. It has been compounded with methylated spirit.

Apart from the Pharmacopœia he did not know of any other standard. The article was labelled "Methylated Belladonna-liniment"; there was no standard in the Pharmacopœia for methylated belladonna-liniment, but, in his opinion, to label it methylated only meant that it was made with commoner spirit. Sir John Glover said he did not consider the analyst had given the particulars of what was in the article. If a person buying anything in the city, say nitrate of soda, submitted it for analysis he would expect to get a certificate stating exactly what the ingredients of the article were. He called for the form laid down in the Act, and questioned whether the certificate was in the form. Mr. Bridge stated that the certificate was in form as settled by a High Court case.

The Chairman: A case in regard to belladonna-liniment?

Mr. Bridge: No, milk; but it is just the same.

A Magistrate: He should not care to put it in his tea.

Mr. Beck, for the defence, contended that the analyst's certificate was not in the form required by the Act, and that "either the parts as under" should be stated, or "the percentage of foreign ingredients." The Magistrates ought to know what the analyst found in the article, and it was for them to judge whether an offence had been committed. He raised this point formally, but his main point was that by labelling the article "Methylated Belladonna-liniment" the defence had taken it out of the Pharmacopœia. By word of mouth and by the label the purchaser was told he was not buying the Pharmacopœia article.

The Chairman said the inspector's assistant was instructed to ask for a certain article—liniment of belladonna. He asked for it in that way, and was told that the defendants had none, but that they had another article—methylated belladonna-liniment. He consented to take a different article from what he had asked for, and the article he received was distinctly labelled. The analyst said that he received a sample of liniment of belladonna, and had treated it as if it were the B.P. article, whereas it was not sold as such. He therefore dismissed the case.

County Court Case.

DAMAGED SACCHARIN.

IN the City of London Court on December 17, before Judge Rentoul, the Anglo-Continental Chemical Works Co. (Limited), sued Messrs. Jones Brothers, Reading, to recover the sum of 7*l.* 10*s.* the price of 6*lbs.* of "Tigress" saccharin. At the instance of the defendants the Great Western Railway had been added as third parties, it being contended that the defendants were entitled to recover against them in the event of being liable to the plaintiffs. It appeared that on May 18, 1900, plaintiffs received an order from the defendants for 6*lbs.* of saccharin at 19*s.* per *lb.* The plaintiffs accepted the order at 25*s.* per *lb.*, which was agreed to. The saccharin was sent by the Great Western Railway in six tins, but one of the tins was delivered half empty. The defendants rejected the whole parcel as well as a second parcel of 6*lbs.*, but it afterwards turned out that they had accepted the first parcel, and had used it in the way of trade. The defendants' contention was that, if they agreed to take the parcel it was because a representative of the Great Western Railway Company told them that if they would sell it, and do the best they could with it: the Railway Company would pay whatever deficit there was. The plaintiffs admitted having made a claim against the Great Western Railway

Company. Mr. Schiller, who appeared for the railway company, entirely repudiated liability. Mr. Turrell, for the defendants, relinquished the claim against the company, and the judge found for the plaintiffs with costs.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re WILLIAM WOOSTER, trading as a Chemist and Druggist at High Street, Southall.

THE first meeting of creditors was held on December 13 at the offices of the Official Receiver, Temple Chambers, E.C., before the senior Official Receiver. Particulars of the debtor's affairs were given in last week's issue (page 956). In the course of the proceedings the solicitor for the secured creditor said his client abandoned his claim to the stock, and the Official Receiver observed that this would simplify matters considerably. After some discussion, it was resolved that Mr. George White, chartered accountant, 14 Old Jewry Chambers, E.C., should be appointed trustee, and the following were elected to form the committee of inspection:—Mr. S. Baiss (Baiss Brothers & Stevenson, Limited), Mr. A. Tebbutt (Sutton & Co.), and Mr. G. R. Moxon (Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.). The trustee's security was fixed at 300*l.*, and it was resolved that the premium on the bond be paid out of the estate.

The debtor came up for his public examination at Windsor on December 14 before the Registrar (Mr. C. W. Last), when he gave detailed information of his trading as already published. The hearing was ultimately adjourned until January 11.

The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Allen & Hanburys (Limited), London	28	0	0
Baiss Brothers & Stevenson (Limited)	80	0	0
Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.	10	0	0
Hulbert & Deacon, Southall	10	0	0
Jones, H., London	13	10	0
Lunnis, J. A., Southall	10	0	0
Leake, Crawford	10	7	0
Loomes, H., Colchester	69	10	0
McDonald, Dr., Southall	10	0	0
Meggesson & Co. (Limited), London	17	5	1
Milsom & Son, London	14	16	0
Mason, T. G., London	18	10	0
"Bankers," Southall	40	0	0
Photophylisam Company, Liverpool	12	0	0
Penny, T., Southall	10	0	0
Palmer, W., London	10	11	0
Rogers, Mrs.	15	0	0
Sanger & Son, London	28	0	0
Silverlock, H., London	18	0	0
Sutton & Co., London	104	0	0
Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson, London	10	1	0
Windle, Dr., Southall	18	4	0

Partly-secured Creditor.

Moore, J. D.	475	2	6
(Estimated value of security, 230 <i>l.</i>)			

Preferential Creditor.

Quinion, F. C., Southall	10	0	0
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Re EDWARD SAMUEL BALCHIN, Gosport, Hants, Pharmaceutical Chemist.

THIS bankrupt applied at the Portsmouth Bankruptcy Court on December 12 for his order of discharge. Mr. J. C. Moberley, Official Receiver, read his report, which showed that the receiving-order was made on April 9, 1897, on the debtor's own petition. The liabilities were proved to be 524*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* The assets were established at 117*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*, and, after payment of preferential claims and costs, dividends amounting to 8*s.* 2*d.* in the pound were paid. The applicant had commenced business in Gosport in 1889, but previous to that had been in business at Champion Hill. In 1890 he made an arrangement with his creditors, and three years before his bankruptcy attempted another arrangement, which fell through. The Official Receiver referred in detail to the bankruptcy proceedings, and pointed out that the assets were not equal to 10*s.* in the pound; that he had omitted to keep proper books of account and continued trading after knowing himself to be insolvent; contracted debts without having at the time of contracting them reasonable or probable grounds of expectation of being able to pay them; and having made on a previous occasion a composition or arrangement with his creditors. The Judge now granted discharge on payment of 45*l.* within a year.

Re JAMES CHARNOCK MARSHALL, 5 Dunster Avenue, Rochdale (late Castleton) and 5 Mayfield Terrace, King Cross, Halifax, Manufacturing Chemist.—The public examination of this debtor was resumed on December 13 at Rochdale. The previous hearing was adjourned to enable debtor to file an account showing his dealings with Messrs. Metcalfe & Co. and Messrs. Bancroft & Co. It was elicited from the debtor that the bankruptcy was due to the failure of persons who owed the debtor money, and that, in order to promote the formation of the Bancroft Extract Company, the debtor had found both money and goods. The debtor was allowed to pass.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Leitch, William Alfred, 21 Heath Street, Hampstead, and 41 Dyne Road, Brondesbury, chemist. Trustee, George White, 14 Old Jewry Chambers, London, E.C., Chartered Accountant. Dated, December 5; filed, December 12. Liabilities unsecured, 570*l.*; estimated net assets, 600*l.* The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Allen & Hanburys, London ...	38	0	0
Davy, Hill & Son, London ...	123	0	0
Express Dairy Company, London ...	13	0	0
Ford, Shapland & Co., London ...	10	0	0
Idris & Co., London ...	78	0	0
Leitch, F. A., London ...	20	0	0
Leitch, H. L., London ...	30	0	0
Lynch & Co., London ...	18	0	0
Sangers, Messrs., London ...	83	0	0
Schutze & Co. (Limited), London ...	13	0	0
Slaughter & Colgrave, London ...	15	0	0
Whitaker (Limited), London ...	15	0	0

Severs, Joseph, Prospect Villa, Kendal, pharmaceutical chemist. Trustee, Tom G. Thompson, Highgate, Kendal, Accountant. Dated, December 14; filed, December 16. Secured creditors, 330*l.* 12*s.* Liabilities unsecured, 659*l.* 16*s.*; estimated net assets, 199*l.* 8*s.* The principal creditors are the North British & Mercantile Insurance Company, Edinburgh (330*l.*).

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Arblaster, C. J., and Churchill, W. J., under the style of Arblaster & Churchill, Birmingham, dispensing chemists.

Ellis, F., and Ashby, F., under the style of the Lion Eagle Manufacturing Company, Mark Lane, E.C., and Brentford, manufacturers of proprietary articles.

Lyon, H., and Mayer, N., under the style of H. Lyon & Mayer, Mark Lane, E.C., commission-merchants.

Severs, J., and Bateson, T., under the style of Severs & Bateson, Kendal, pharmaceutical chemists.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

Harford, Walter, Leeds, Kippax, and Selby, teeth-specialist.

New Companies & Company News.

INTERNATIONAL SHOE FINDINGS (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by C. Wells and H. W. Eabry, at Leicester, as the International Stain and Blacking Company, and to carry on the business, *inter alia*, of chemists and druggists. The first directors are C. Wells (chairman), Henry W. Eabry, S. S. Cowling, and F. E. Fletcher. Registered office, 52 Belvoir Street, Leicester.

EXPLOSIVES ACID COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by J. N. Bateman at Mill Street East, Savile Town, Dewsbury, as the Explosives Acid Company, and to carry on the business of chemical-manufacturers and merchants, drysalts, manufacturers of and dealers in muriate of ammonia, sal ammoniac, nitric and hydrochloric acids, and other acids and saltcake, manufacturers, importers and exporters of explosives, makers of dyers' chemicals, &c. Registered office, Mill Street East, Savile Town, Dewsbury.

FLATTERS & GARNETT (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists, druggists, and druggists' sundriesmen, manu-

facturers of and dealers in patent medicines and proprietary articles, dentists, opticians, herbalists, grocers, tobacconists, wine and spirit merchants, mineral-water manufacturers, oil and colour men, Italian warehousemen, manufacturers of and dealers in stains, solutions and chemicals for photographic or microscopical work, manufacturers of lanterns, photographic apparatus, and microscopical slides, makers of microscopes, &c., and to employ qualified persons to act on the company's behalf for any such purposes. The first subscribers are:—A. Flatters, 18 Church Road, Loug Sight, Manchester, microscopist; J. B. Garnett, 48 Deansgate, Manchester, chemist; C. Garnett, 10-12 Cateaton Street, Manchester, confectioner; J. S. Green, 6 Winmarleigh Street, Warrington, public accountant; J. J. Garnett, 25 Booth Avenue, Withington, Manchester, confectioner; Mrs. E. Garnett, 22 Mayfield Road, Whalley Range, Manchester; and E. Garnett, 12 Great Western Street, Moss Side, Manchester, gentleman. No initial public issue. The number of directors is not to be less than three nor more than five; the first are A. Flatters, J. B. Garnett, and C. Garnett. Qualification, 200*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 48 Deansgate, Manchester.

A. J. WHITE (LIMITED).—The directors have declared a dividend on the preference shares for the quarter ending December 31 at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

PARKE'S DRUG-STORES (LIMITED).—A final dividend on the ordinary shares for the year ending September 30 of 3 per cent. (making 6 per cent. for the year) will be paid on December 30.

LENNON (LIMITED).—The annual general meeting of the shareholders in this company was held at the Cape Town office on November 26 under the chairmanship of Mr. A. Walsh, general manager. A dividend of 10 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares was declared, 10,000*l.* voted to the reserve fund, and the balance of 10,022*l.* 1*s.* carried forward to next year's account. The retiring directors, Messrs. A. J. Rivett and J. H. Bell, and the auditors, Messrs. Hands and Shore, were re-elected.

Reviews.

The British Journal Photographic Almanac and Photographers' Daily Companion, 1902 Edited by THOMAS BEDDING, F.R.P.S. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ × 4 $\frac{3}{4}$. Pp. 1560. 1*s.*, cloth 1*s.* 6*d.* Henry Greenwood & Co.

THERE are about 560 pages of literary matter in this wonderful shillingsworth, the other 1,000 pages being devoted to advertisements. There appear to be fewer contributions this year, but the editorial matter is particularly good, the first place being taken by a treatise on telephotography.

The International Annual of Anthony's Photographic Bulletin and American Process Year-book. Volume XIV for 1902. Edited by W. I. SCANDLIN. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ × 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. xvi+354. 2*s.* New York: Anthony & Co.; London: Hiffee & Sons (Limited).

AN excellently printed volume with numerous fine illustrations. Many of the articles are by English photographers or concern places in Great Britain. The tables and formulas section is not the least valuable part of the book. We notice formulas for "Tolidol" developer, which is new on this side of the Atlantic.

The Pocket Formulary for the Treatment of Disease in Children. By LUDWIG FREYBERGER, M.D., M.R.C.P. Third Edition. London: Rebman (Limited). 16mo. xvi. 260 pages. 7*s.* 6*d.*

THIS edition of one of the most useful of medical formularies has been brought into line with the British Pharmacopoeia, 1898. It will be remembered that the book consists of a brief epitome of the pharmacy of medicines arranged alphabetically, this pharmaceutical information being followed in each case by concise notes on the therapeutics of the drug or preparation, with doses and one or more formulæ for suitable compounds for administration. In many instances the doses are stated with exceptional fulness as the ages of children require, so that prescribers see at a glance the quantity that should be given to certain patients, or in special conditions.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The Medical Preliminary Education.

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Maben's letter in your last issue, I think that it may not be amiss at the present time to point out that the requirements of the General Medical Council in this matter are not identical with those of the Scotch Universities. For instance, the latter do not now accept the examination of the College of Preceptors in lieu of their own medical Preliminary examination. I have little doubt that in the near future our apprentices, attending classes with a view to passing the pharmaceutical examination, will be entitled to apply to the Carnegie Trust for payment of their fees. If one may judge from their dealing with the applications already lodged, the trustees have made it a rule that no one shall participate unless he has undergone a general-knowledge examination recognised as not being lower than the University medical Preliminary. It is of importance, therefore, that all apprentices in a position to obtemper the other regulations of the Carnegie Trust, should take either the University medical Preliminary or go in for such certificates as are accepted in place of it by the Universities, so as to put themselves in a position to obtain assistance in their future studies. Parents often consult masters on this subject, and it would be well that they kept this in view.

JAMES PATERSON.

Aberdeen, December 17.

Methylated Liniments.

SIR,—I read with considerable surprise in the *C. & D.* that Dr. Thresh stated in reference to soap liniment "that it was the usual practice of chemists to make it with methylated spirit." Surely the doctor in this instance must have been incorrectly reported. Some years ago (and that within twenty) Dr. Thresh carried on a pharmaceutical business in Buxton of a class neither better nor worse than hundreds of others throughout the United Kingdom, and I will not do him the injustice of assuming that that was his usual practice; but what astonishes me is that Dr. Thresh, since he became an expert witness, should have made such an extraordinary discovery. Is this another illustration of the capacity of the expert to supply as an article of commerce just what is demanded? If this sort of thing is going on a great many chemists will have good reason to be thankful that Judges and Magistrates can appraise the expert witness's evidence at its proper value.

Yours faithfully,

New Barnet.

R. F. YOUNG.

An Unsolicited Testimonial.

SIR,—Your DIARY for 1902 is, as usual, a marvellous production, which will find a welcome home on the desk of every busy man. As I may have unconsciously infringed somebody's copyright in the wording of this unsolicited testimonial I will append an original one, and I hereby state that I read your DIARY ten years ago, since then I have read no other. For conciseness and ambiguity this should be very valuable to you, and I only need to remind you that at this season of the year all parcels of game, turkeys, or special brands should be distinctly addressed, and the labels securely tied. You will forgive the hint which I assure you is kindly meant, but I have often heard it stated that if you want anything always try the *C. & D.* At the moment I am particularly wanting information. I turn to page 273 of your new DIARY, and under the heading of "Titles" I find it distinctly stated that "limited companies being outside the Act may use the titles." When was this judicial decision given? How is it that a lot of men still keep arguing about it? How is it that members of the Council, and, I have been

informed, even the President himself, doubt the legality of the use of the title by companies? Why have we been so long allowed to remain in fatuous ignorance by a journal that "is supposed to [and does—EDITOR] represent the welfare of chemists," as per Mr. J. C. Pentney's letter? Of course there have been plenty of arguments for and against, but if the DIARY statement is correct, then we must be a lot of politically incompetent duffers, including,

Yours interrogatively,

Batley, December 17.

R. BROADHEAD.

"Tatcho" Prices.

SIR,—Having had several inquiries for 4s. 6d. "Tatcho" at 1s. 10d., I wrote for terms, and in one sense got a little better off than Mr. Monk, as the company's offer to me was based on a 5% instead of a 10% minimum. Even this magnanimity is wasted in my case, as although I consider that every business concern is at liberty to make what terms it pleases to its own customers, I, as a retailer, deeply resent the methods of the G. R. Sims Company. I think the scheme of advertising an article at 4s. 6d. and offering at the same time to supply it at 1s. 10d., calculated to prejudice the minds of the public very unfavourably on the vexed question of chemists' profits. I am led to this conclusion by the remarks of my own customers when discussing "Tatcho," and I gently but firmly insist that it is grossly unfair on the part of G. R. Sims Company to attempt to saddle any retailer with a quantity of a 1s. article, which, moreover, cannot be sold by the most inveterate cutter for less than 9d., after having sedulously instilled into the public mind that it is only worth 6d. at the most.

Yours truly,

Ludlow, December 14.

W. J. BROWN.

The Pharmacist and Patent Medicines.

SIR,—Mr. Keen calls attention to remarks made about chemists in the advertisements of quack-medicine vendors. This constituted a grievance at one time, but I do not think it does so now. In fact, it would not be difficult to prove that these remarks have the opposite effect to that intended, in the cases of both chemists and medical men. The enormous amount of advertising which is necessary now to produce even a limited sale of a patent, shows that the public are less influenced by the extravagant claims made than they were, and the frantic efforts being made by present-day advertisers, in which chemists and medical men are alike vilified and abused, are only likely to end in further alienation of the public from them, their methods, and nostrums. Have chemists noted that most of the new patents which are extensively advertised are priced at 2s. 9d. or over? The older patents are mostly 1s. 1½d. and over. The reason is that it now takes so much money in advertising to sell one patent, that no price is admissible below 2s. 9d. The article at 2s. 9d. is not worth more—it may be worth less—than the old patent at 1s. 1½d.; the proprietor does not make more out of it, and the only inference is that he probably pays 1s. 9d. in advertising for every article he supplies wholesale for 2s. This sort of thing cannot go on long. It is notorious, also, that the newspaper-advertisement is becoming less valuable. A patent which is regularly advertised in the newspapers only sells in a district during the week in which a door-to-door distribution of pamphlets is made. During the weeks in between then and next visitation it is hardly heard of. Mr. Keen might, if he has time, turn attention to the kind of abuse which has been poured on chemists by some of the stores' men. One man has been a notorious offender in this way, and I am of opinion that the chemists of a district in which he publishes his insinuations might long ago have unitedly raised an action against him for gross misrepresentation to the prejudice of an honourable body of men. This is a question on which "Xrayser" ought to be at home. The point is, Can a man issue grossly libellous statements with impunity because they are directed against a body of men in place of individuals?

Dumfries, December 16.

JAMES REID.

A correspondent (93/50), who signs himself *The Chemists Drug Co.*, suggests as a solution of the unprofitable-patents matter, that chemists and druggists should form a company with head depôt in London, and manufacture medicines, &c., of their own, which they can push in place of the non-paying articles. They could buy patents in large

quantities at the lowest prices, and distribute to the shareholders at rock-bottom prices. Our correspondent forgets that this is not only an old suggestion, but it has been tried more than once and failed—miserably.

Benevolent Fund.

SIR,—It would be but courtesies to acknowledge with sincere thanks the numerous kind things that have been said and done on my behalf in the recent election, and the congratulations received from various correspondents; and I beg to offer to them each and all hearty good wishes for a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours faithfully,

R. GOODWIN MUMBRAY.

Doctors' Shops.

SIR,—You will doubtless be investigating the effect of the recent resolution of the General Medical Council regarding the sale of poisons by the unqualified assistants of registered practitioners, and I would ask permission to direct attention to certain results as regards Ireland. The Irish Pharmacy Act, as your readers know perfectly, not only forbids the sale of poisons by unqualified persons, but also forbids such—to compound prescriptions, to sell prescriptions, or to keep open shop for their sale. And fines have been obtained in the Law Courts for each of these acts as a separate offence. Now when the General Medical Council forbids practitioners to allow their unqualified assistants to break the Pharmacy Act, it follows that they forbid them to compound prescriptions in Ireland, for such would be as distinct breach of the law as the retailing of poisons in Britain. It would thus appear that a practitioner's dispenser, not being a pharmaceutical chemist, nor his daughter, nor his coachman, nor his cook, nor his buttons, nor his butler, may compound for his patients, nay, they may not even dispense a dozen of his favourite tabloids to a sick person. Although no report that I have seen of this section of the proceedings is very full, it would seem that Dr. Macalister went out of his way to assert that a "shop" included a "surgery," thus leaving no loophole for the private practitioner to escape. Again, and this refers to every part of the kingdom, if Dr. X. prescribe a couple of ounces of belladonna-liniment for Mrs. Y., and if Mrs. Y. is directed to get it again out of his surgery, it is evident that if she pays anything for the article to an unqualified person that an offence has been committed, although hitherto no cognisance has been taken of such dealings. It would seem that it was left to Mr. Brown to enlighten Sir Hugh Beevor as to the provisions of the Apothecaries Act. Personally I should be sorry to quarrel with Mr. Brown's view that apothecaries must be exempt from these proceedings, but I rather doubt if their legal status is quite so clear.

Yours truly,

J. C. MCWALTER.

Dublin, December 8.

[We can assure Dr. McWalter as to the surgeries. One of the West of Scotland culprits put the case straight to the President of medical practitioners employing unqualified dispensers, and the President replied curtly that the Council was dealing solely with the sale of poisons by unqualified assistants in open shops belonging to registered medical practitioners, thus causing infringement of the Pharmacy Act. Doubtless the Irish Pharmaceutical Council will look after the application of this dictum to the special conditions under the Irish Act.—Ed.]

Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary"—Trade Law or Pharmacy Law Sections.

Stamped-medicine Questions.

92/72. *Puzzled*.—There is nothing in the new matter of the handbill which you send that will render the unstamped articles liable. "Note these three lines" is not a dutiable recommendation. This correspondent writes as follows:—

Please accept my hearty thanks for the prompt and very full answer you give in this week's issue to my inquiries re Handbills and Medicine-stamp Acts. Your ruling in one or two instances quite astonished me. Till I read the article in the DIARY I thought I had drawn up a really harmless handbill, which, while introducing

certain preparations, yet did not bring them within the Act. I can only recommend all engaged in the drug trade to read their DIARY thoughtfully, and then look to their advertisements. For my part, I have taken your advice and withdrawn the bills.

93/7. *E. F. P. L.*.—Your ideas of the Medicine-stamp Acts are so very hazy that we must really ask you to study the article on the subject in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1902.

93/20. *C. P. C.*, who has never thought anything about the stamping of his preparations until he read our recent warnings, sends us four handbills asking if they will make the articles liable. All do. The first, because it says, "Stop that cough by sending immediately to Blank's for a bottle of pectoral balsam of linseed"; a second, because it is headed "Specialities"; a third, because it says, "For biliousness, for sick headache, for constipation, for complexion, little liver pills cannot be excelled." A fourth handbill starts with "War! war! war! against the cold and biting East winds of winter"; then it specifies, amongst other things, a cough-mixture and a tic-mixture, and says "First dose—enemy wavers; next several doses or one bottle, in full retreat." This is a decided holding out of the preparations as cures.

93/8. *J. A. T.* holds a wine-licence and has sold cocaine wine unstamped which is recommended for the relief or cure of certain ailments, and has been called upon to show reason why the penalty of 10% should not be enforced. It has not been the custom of the Board of Inland Revenue to enforce both medicine and wine duties in respect to cocaine wine. Alpe says:—

Whether medicated wines—i.e., wines to which a medicinal drug has been added—are liable to duty or not depends in the first place upon the extent to which the flavour of the wine has been altered by the admixture of the drug. Wine so slightly flavoured as not to be unfitted for use as a beverage can only be sold by persons holding the proper excise licences for the sale of wine or sweets, and such a preparation is not considered to be a chemical or official preparation, and is not chargeable with duty, and chemists would not escape prosecutions for excise penalties by selling it under cover of a medicine stamp. To this class belong several kinds of coca-wine containing $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of cocaine or less to the fluid ounce, orange-quinine wine containing less than 1 gr. of sulphate of quinine to the fluid ounce, many of the imported medicated wines, and others. If the wine is so altered in character by the admixture of the drug as to be rendered unfit for use as a beverage, its liability to duty must be decided by reference to the ordinary rules.

Our correspondent does not say which class the wine he has sold falls into; if fully-medicated it is a medicine, and cannot be recommended without medicine-stamp duty, no matter though he holds a wine-licence. Apparently that is the class to which the coca-wine here referred to belongs, but a judicious representation of the matter to the Board will ensure an abatement, if not a remission, of the penalty. See THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1902, page 282.

Addition to "Diary" Article, page 281, second column, class vi., add to sentence beginning "The holding out":—"Mention of part or parts of the body in connection with a medicine infers some ailment."

81/47. *D. X.*—A limited company is incapable of being elected a member of the Pharmaceutical Society, therefore cannot use the letters "M.P.S."

85/48. *Ely*.—Neither potassium ferrocyanide, nor ammonium sulphocyanide is a poison in Great Britain. See the list on page 270 of THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1902.

85/71. *J. J.*—(1) The Pharmaceutical Council appears not to regard creosote as a scheduled poison, the object of scheduling carbolic acid having been to deal with coal-tar products solely. (2) The so-called "chlorodyne" used in many cheap lozenges is a mixture of chloroform, oil of peppermint, and capsicum. (3) You will find particulars of the Shop Hours' Act in the DIARY, page 284.

86/61. *J. H. H.*—We printed a warning in regard to incandescent mantles in our issue of November 24, page 842, and a law case on November 9, page 773. You seem to think the Welsbach Company are bluffing you, and if we may judge

from the tenour of your note you have not the slightest idea whether the mantles you are using are an infringement of their patent or not. Do not you think it would be wise of you to look into the matter very promptly? Infringing of a patent is quite as serious a matter as breaking into a shop.

83/32. *D. W.*—We do not recollect any case where a retailer has been proceeded against in respect to a 3 gr. or 4 gr. deficiency in seidlitz powders. Such a case would probably fail, as the deficiency might arise from improper division of the powder by the purchaser. Each powder must be divided. Compare *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*, 1901, page 514.

87/8. *Max.*—If the goods were not according to sample you were entitled to return them, but if you purchased without sample and on representations of a traveller in whom you appear not to have had confidence, you will have difficulty in convincing a Court that you were justified in returning the goods without arranging with the senders as to their disposal.

85/55. *No. 7.*—We expect that the terms of your spirit-lisence are for six days per week. If for the full seven days, the usual Sunday hours for victuallers apply. See *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*, page 284.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

45/59. *E. J.*—Sausage-seasoning:—

Cayenne pepper	...	...	1 oz.
Cumin...	...	...	1 oz.
Cassia...	...	...	1 oz.
Nutmeg	...	...	2 oz.
Pimento	...	...	6 oz.
Black pepper...	...	...	8 oz.
Salt	...	...	8 oz.

Mix.

53/11. *C. A. G.*—Enamelling Metal.—The only books we know on the subject of enamelling on metal are Paul Raudan's "Enamels and Enamelling," 10s. 6d., W. N. Brown's "Art of Enamelling on Metal," 2s., both published by Scott, Greenwood & Co., 19 Ludgate Hill, E.C.; and H. Cunynghame's "Art-enamelling upon Metals," published by Constable & Co., 2 Whitehall Gardens, Westminster. Unfortunately, all these books treat the subject from an art point of view, rather than from a commercial and utilitarian standpoint. A more practical series of articles is running in the *Engineer* just now, which may appear later in book form.

58/34. *Kudos.*—Varnishing Leather Rollers.—The formula for Nubian blacking is given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 324, from which you will see that the basis is a kind of oil-varnish. It would seem that an elastic varnish is required, as there would be a tendency for the surface to chip. Probably a layer of bichromised gelatin would answer, either alone or covered with collodion. The bichromised gelatin is made by adding 5 per cent. of potassium bichromate to a solution of glue 1 lb., glycerin $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., water 1 gal., and exposing the coated article to light. Another form of insoluble gelatin is made by adding a solution of chrome alum or formaldehyde to gelatin solution. We doubt, however, if these would set in the time-limit you mention.

54/6. *Zemo.*—(1) Hair-curling Powder:—

Dried carbonate of soda	...	...	3x.
Powdered acacia	...	...	3iv.

Mix well, and divide into packets, each containing $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

The contents of a packet, for use, are dissolved in a tea-cupful of hot water. (2) Shampoo-powder:—

Dried carbonate of soda	...	} equal parts
Powdered soap	...	
Aniline orange	...	
	...	a sufficiency

Mix, and divide into 3iij. packets for making 1 pint of shampooing-liquid.

(3) The formula for Resinol Ointment is, we presume, only known to the owners of the proprietary rights.

50/21. *W. C. H.*—Works on Bleaching.—C. O'Neill, "Calico-printing, Bleaching, and Dyeing," 2 vols., 31s. 6d. (Simpkin); J. Gardner, "Bleaching, Dyeing, and Calico-printing," 5s. (Churchill); "Modern Bleaching and Finishing," 2s. (Heywood).

54/11. *W. A.*—"Capillaire" is French for maidenhair (*Adiantum pedatum*).

59/4. *Bateman.*—(1) Camphor and oil of cloves are suitable perfumes for toning down acetic acid in a hair-lotion. (2) Kieselguhr by itself is not an ideal face-powder, but if mixed with finely powdered boric acid or French chalk to give smoothness, it makes a passable powder.

60/69. *Mudax.*—Hoose-mixture:—

Ferri peroxid.	...	...	3ij.
Spt. picis	...	...	3j.
Ol. terebinth...	...	...	3j.
Ol. lini ad	...	...	3viiij.

M.

A small teaspoonful night and morning.

59/57. *H.*—Locust-exterminator.—We are inquiring for the chemical-smoke bombs your customer says are used for this purpose. We do not know them at all.

50/33. *J. P.*—Book on Liquid Air.—"Liquid Air and the Liquefaction of Gases," by Dr. T. O'Connor Sloane. 10s. 6d. (Sampson Low, Marston & Co.)

59/43. *H. A. M.*—The Window-display in which a skull was used, and which had electric lamps in the eye-sockets, was among a number contributed to the *C. & D.*, July 25, 1891, by Mr. E. Dangerfield. That number is out of print, but could be obtained, we think, by advertising for it in the Coloured Supplement.

59/44. *N. V. S.*—The Method of Silvering Glass was last given in the *C. & D.*, November 24, 1900, page 882*. To say you "have tried several methods but not one satisfactory" does not give us much clue as to where you failed.

68/53. *Silver.*—Silvering-glass.—See reply to "N.V.S. (59/44).

57/34. *W. R. H.*—The treatise on sight-testing and the spectacle-trade was published in the *DIARY* for 1900. It is out of print, but you would get a copy by advertising in the Supplement. The syllabus of the Spectaclemakers' Company can be had by applying to the Olerk, Colonel T. Davies Sewell, 11 Temple House, Temple Avenue, E.C. The next examination is in May, 1902.

67/51. *W. F. G.*—The only risk that an unqualified person runs in giving nitrous-oxide gas for teeth-extraction is that if a patient dies under it or suffers any injury, the unqualified person may be prosecuted for culpable negligence.

63/37. *J. R. S. W.*—(1) Violet-powder:—

Starch-powder	...	...	6 lbs.
Powdered orris-root	...	...	1 lb.
Oil of bergamot	...	...	2 dr.
Oil of neroli	...	...	15 drops

Mix the perfume with the orris-root, pass through a sieve, then mix with the starch, and again sift.

(2) Hair-wash Powder.—See reply to "Zemo." (3) Camphor-ice:—

Spermaceti	3iv.
White wax	3viiij.
Almond oil	3xvj.

Melt, and add—

Flowers of camphor	3iv.
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Dissolve, and add—

Oil of bitter almonds	3ss.
Expressed oil of mace	3ij.

Stir well, and when about to set pour into suitable moulds and cool rapidly.

66/46. *Jena.*—Cheap Black Ink.—Soak 12 lbs. bruised galls and 12 lbs. roughly powdered logwood in 15 gals. of water for twelve hours, then boil for one hour, and strain on to

4 lbs. sulphate of iron. Boil the dregs with 15 gals. more water, and strain on to 4 oz. bruised cloves. When cold, strain into the first boiling; add 6 lbs. gum arabic, previously dissolved, and make up to 36 gals. Should stand some weeks to mature.

65/74. *Camdux*.—The following data as to the freezing-point of mixtures of glycerin and water will enable you to choose the one most suited for your purpose:—

Glycerin, per cent.	Freezes at
10	— 1° C.
20	— 2.5°
30	— 6°
40	— 17.5°
50	— 31°

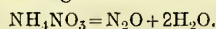
63/57. *G. H. H.*—Irish Siate is an argillaceous slate which is supposed to owe its curative virtues to the presence of iron and sulphur. It is used internally and externally for bruises, being credited with healing and drying qualities. Seventeenth-century doctors used it for ulcers and agues. The dose is ʒj. to ʒj., stirred in any convenient liquid.

64/43. *Herolotus*.—Liquid Nerve-destroyer.—When you ask for a liquid that will “destroy the nerve” in a hollow tooth at once, you are using the expression, we take it, in the popular sense. There is nothing that really “destroys the nerve at once”; even arsenical paste used by dentists for that purpose takes some days to act, and, of course, needs to be applied with caution and kept securely in place. An excellent Toothache-cure, which only by a straining of veracity can be called a nerve-destroyer, is made as follows:—

Cocain. hydrochlor.	...	...	gr. xxx.
Ac. tannici	...	...	ʒj.
Ac. benzoici	...	...	gr. xv.
Camphor.	...	...	ʒj.
Gum. mastic	...	...	gr. xxx.
Gum. sandarac.	...	...	gr. xxx.
Morph. hydrochlor.	...	...	gr. iij.
Chloroform.	...	...	ʒss.
Alcohol. (90-per-cent.)	...	...	ʒj. ʒvj.

M.S.A.

62/24. *New Subscriber*.—Nitrous-oxide Gas, as you are aware, is made by heating ammonium nitrate—



If the heat, however, is not carefully regulated, there will come over a proportion of nitric oxide (NO), and even free ammonia or nitric acid. Again, if the nitrate of ammonia is contaminated with chloride, chlorine is evolved. On this account the gas is purified before being used as an anæsthetic by passing it through ferrous-sulphate solution (by which the nitric oxide is absorbed to form a deep-brown coloured liquid) and caustic-potash solution (to absorb any acid and chlorine). These facts will enable you to test the doubtful sample of the gas.

64/74. *D. W. (Ghent)*.—Your postcard does not make quite clear what your requirement is. We believe a syrup of cocoa is used with water for assuaging thirst; but you speak of a powder.

60/24. *J. H. I.*—Sodium phenate becomes dark red on keeping, owing to oxidation. The solution (soda phenique) also changes in colour, but only after long keeping.

65/32. *Ammonia (Milan)*—Toilet Ammonia-cream for insect bites and stings:—

Pulv. tragacanth.	...	...	ʒij.
Ol. thymi	...	...	℥xxx.
Ol. citri	...	...	℥xxx.
Sp. rectificat.	...	...	ʒss.
Pulv. ammon. carb.	...	...	ʒss.
Glycerini	...	...	ʒiij.
Aque	...	...	ʒvj.

Dissolve the essential oils in the rectified spirit, and add to the tragacanth contained in a mortar; mix well, then add all at once the glycerin and water previously mixed; stir until uniform, and, lastly, add the finely powdered carbonate of ammonia.

69/59. *Analyst*.—The educational number of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, published in September, contains the information you desire as to qualifying as an analyst.

55/63. *Electricity*.—(1) The Nerve-liniment is lin. camph. co. to which a little ol. terebinth. has been added. (2) Dry Cells.—The following are three kinds of these much used cells. The *Burnley cell* (Patent 1,110 of 1890) has a zinc cylinder lined with a plastic exciting-mass made of—

Sal ammoniac	...	...	1 part
Zinc chloride...	...	...	1 part
Plaster of Paris	...	...	3 parts
Flour	...	...	1 part
Water...	...	...	2 parts

In the centre of the cell a carbon core is placed, the space between it and the exciting-mass being filled with—

Sal ammoniac	...	...	1 part
Zinc chloride...	...	...	1 part
Manganese peroxide	...	...	3 parts
Powdered charcoal	...	...	3½ parts
Water...	...	...	a sufficiency

The manganese oxide and charcoal play the part of a depolarising-agent. *Obach's cell* (6,565 of 1893) is formed of an outer cylinder of zinc cemented to an insulating-base composed of—

Asphalt	...	...	70–80 per cent.
Paper pulp	...	...	10–15 per cent.
Resin	...	...	10–15 per cent.

A smaller cylinder of depolarising-paste, with the carbon rod in the centre, is put inside the zinc cylinder, the space between the two cylinders being filled with exciting-mixture. The composition of the depolarising-paste is—

Manganese peroxide	...	...	50–60 per cent.
Plumbago	...	...	40–50 per cent.
Tragacanth	...	...	1 per cent.

The exciting mixture is—

Plaster of Paris	...	...	80–90 per cent.
Flour	...	...	10–20 per cent.

made into a thin paste with solution of sal ammoniac. The cells are covered with granular cork or an equivalent to prevent escape of moisture, and a bitumen seal. One terminal is soldered to the zinc, and the other to the carbon, by means of an alloy of bismuth (2), lead (2), tin (1), which expands on solidifying and ensures good contact. The patents for the Burnley and Obach cells are in force, but that for the *Hellisen cell* (4,369 of 1885) has expired. In this superoxide of lead, oxide of iron, or superoxide of manganese is used for surrounding the cathode, the powder being packed round it with slight pressure and held there by means of fabric, a porous cell, or parchment-paper. The powder, the inventor states, can be advantageously mixed with such things as charcoal, graphite, and copper filings; and when saline solutions are used, an acetate, free ammonia, or sal ammoniac prevents crystallisation of the zinc compounds derived from the outer zinc cylinder.

53/9. *C. B.*—Linseed, Liquorice, and Chlorodyne Cough-mixture:—

Ol. lini...	...	...	ʒss.
Ol. anisi	...	...	℥xxx.
Ext. glycyrrh. liq.	...	...	ʒiss.
Ext. ipecac. liq.	...	...	ʒiij.
Chlorodyni	...	...	ʒss.
P. tragacanth.	...	...	gr. xxx.
Spt. chloroformi	...	...	ʒss.
Glycerini	...	...	ʒj.
Inf. senegæ ad	...	...	ʒj.

Emulsify the oils by means of the infusion of senega and tragacanth, then add the other ingredients.

The dose for an adult is a teaspoonful three or four times a day.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

95/53. Makers or importers of ithyol-rouge.

89/73. Maker of “Jacqueen,” a cure for alcoholism.

94/82. Where can Dr. Goldenburg's cough-lozenges be obtained?

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, [London, E.C. : December 19.

BUSINESS has slackened down this week, although the fact that an auction of drugs has taken place, has perhaps given more activity to the markets than usual at this time of the year. The chief alterations have been an advance in English refined camphor, and in pilocarpine and salts. Morphine is quoted slightly easier by makers, and in opium a fair business has been done at easier prices also. Shellac is dearer again with a revival of speculation, consequent on higher prices in Calcutta. Sulphate of copper is about 10s. lower. Citric and tartaric acids and cream of tartar are all dull. Quinine is flat in view of the moderate shipments of bark from Java for the half-month. The following are the principal changes of the week, including those occurring at the drug-auctions :—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloes (Cape)	Ipecac. (Cart.)	Chillies	Asafetida
Arsenic	Oil, pepper-	Copper	Tamarinds
Camphor (re-	mint (HGH)	sulphate	(Madras)
Cascarilla		Morphine	
Pilocarpine		Opium	
Senna (fair)			
Shellac			
Sticklac			

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from December 12 to 18, inclusive :—Aniseed (Russ.) 39; arrowroot (@ New York) 120, (@ Newcastle, N.S.W.) 15, (@ St. Vincent) 1,253 bbls.; "balsams" (@ Para), 4 cs.; bromine (@ Hamburg), 40 cs.; calumba, 2; cardamoms, 213; caraway-seed, 360; castor oil (Fr.), 104 bbls. 34 cks. 7 cs. cinchona (@ Ceylon) 120, (@ Amsterdam) 437 bbls.; coriander, 98; cumin-seed, 50; cocaine, crude (@ Callao), 7 cs.; cod-liver oil (@ Aalesund) 544 bbls., (@ Bergen) 152 bbls.; drugs (@ New York) 146, (@ Ghent) 45; ergot (@ Hamburg), 8; fenugreek-seed, 206; gum sandarac, 93; honey (@ New York), 200 cs.; manna, 7; myrrh (@ Aden) 17 cs.; oil, eucalyptus (@ Australia) 347 cs.; oil, geranium, 7; opium (@ Constantinople) 78 cs., (@ Antwerp) 16, (@ Hong Kong), 11; orris (Ital.) 60 bbls.; rhubarb, 31; sandalwood (@ Amst.), 500 bags; sarsaparilla, 2; senna (@ Amsterdam) 100 bales, (@ Suez) 8, 60 in tr.; sulphur (@ Catania) 1,000 bags 450 cks. 20 cs., (@ Gironi) 400 tons; shellac (@ Calcutta) 374 chts., button lac 340 chts.; tamarinds (E.I.), 168; turmeric (@ Calcutta), 1,750 bags; vanilla, 8 cs.; wax, bees' (E.I.) 20 cks., (@ Aden) 16 bgs.; wax, Japanese, 20.

New Chemical-works.

Messrs. Gossage & Sons, soap-manufacturers, Widnes, together with a number of other influential manufacturers, have acquired a site of 141 acres at Rudheatb, Northwich, and are about to erect a large works for the manufacture of chemicals and by-products. The essential brine has been found. The site has a frontage to the North Stafford Canal and the London and North-Western Railway.

Heavy Chemicals.

Generally speaking, the heavy-chemical market is dull, but for the time of year there is certainly a very fair demand on home account existing. In view of the disinclination on the part of consumers to carry heavy stocks over into the New Year, business is, however, mostly of a hand-to-mouth character. Some

few transactions for next year's delivery have taken place, but as the majority of the usual contracts have already been placed, same are not very important. Exports are quiet. Values rule for the most part steady, at late rates.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Caustic soda continues to move fairly well at somewhat lower figures in consideration of next year's prices; 76 to 77 per cent., 10l. 15s. to 11l. per ton; 70 per cent., 9l. 15s. to 10l. per ton; and 60 per cent., 8l. 15s. to 9l. per ton. The late better demand for bleaching-powder has kept up well, and price continues steady, at 6l. 15s. to 7l. per ton for softwood casks, free on rails. Ammonia alkali, 58 per cent., in steady demand and firm, at 4l. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 17s. 6d. per ton, free on rails in bags. Saltcake, owing to decrease in demand is easier, with value only about 27s. to 28s. per ton, free on rails, in bulk. Soda crystals are in average demand, at late rates of 62s. 6d. to 65s. per ton f.o.b. Tyne, and 67s. 6d. per ton f.o.b. Liverpool. Bicarbonate of soda continues to move steadily; 6l. 7s. 6d. to 6l. 12s. 6d. per ton in large casks, and 6l. 15s. to 7l. per ton in 1-cwt. kegs, f.o.b. Liverpool. Sulphate of soda (Glauber's salt) steady, at 30s. to 32s. 6d. per ton, in bags, free on rails. Hyposulphite of soda is somewhat irregular, but values of best makes are fairly well maintained. Demand is not very strong. Nearest values, 5l. 17s. 6d. to 6l. 5s. per ton in large casks, and 6l. 12s. 6d. to 7l. per ton in 1-cwt. kegs. Yellow prussiates have a rather firmer tone, and the potash stands a shade higher, being 5½d. to 5½d. per lb. for best Lancashire makes. Soda, 4½d. to 4½d. per lb. Chlorates of potash and soda are rather higher than when last quoted, but are not very firm. Chlorate of potash, 3d. per lb.; chlorate of soda, 3½d. per lb. Silicates of soda show no change, and are in fairly steady all-round request both for home and export: 140° Tw., 4l. 2s. 6d. to 4l. 12s. 6d. per ton; 100° Tw., 3l. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 2s. 6d. per ton; 75° Tw., 3l. 5s. to 3l. 15s. per ton, in ordinary casks, f.o.b. Tyne or Liverpool, and customary differences for other packages.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, December 18.

CASTOR OIL.—A further arrival of about 500 cases by the s.s. *Magician* has depressed the value of good seconds slightly, and 3½d. per lb. has been accepted for parcels from the quay. Prices for forward delivery remain steady. First pressure French remains unaltered, at 3d. per lb., at which business is being transacted. Second-pressure English and French are obtainable at 2½d. to 2½d. per lb.

ACACIA SORTS.—A steady business is being transacted in this article, 5 and 6 seron lots of amber selling at 37s., and 5-seron lots of soft white realising 43s. 6d. per cwt. Some bids for quantity below current quotations have been promptly declined.

GRAINS OF PARADISE.—80s. per cwt. is now asked for the small stock available in importers' hands.

CANARY-SEED is steady, at 40s. per quarter for good bright Turkish.

CHILIAN BEESWAX.—Sales of fine pale are reported at 7l. 15s. per cwt., and 23 sacks mixed grey and yellow sold at 7l. 3s. 9d.

QUILLATA.—Further arrivals have taken place, but holders still ask 12l. 15s. to 13l. per ton.

ARSENIC.—The upward movement is continued, and 15l. 10s. per ton, net, is now the figure asked. A further rise is looked for.

SPERMACETI (CHILIAN).—Further business, somewhat retail in proportion, is reported at 1s. 1d. per lb.

CARNAUBA WAX.—The firmness which has characterised this article for some time is continued. One ton of fair quality grey to yellow sold at 66s. per cwt. Finest yellow is practically unprocurable. Grey is procurable at 52s. 6d. to 57s. 6d. per cwt.

CALABAR BEANS.—Eleven bags at auction were sold with competition at 1s. 2½d. per lb.

IRISH MOSS.—Twenty-five bales of common quality are reported sold at 7l. per ton.

TURPS.—Steady at 27s. 9d. per cwt.

SULPHATE OF COPPER.—Flat at 20l. to 20l. 10s. per ton for 98 to 99 per cent.

KOLA.—A parcel of about 6 bags West Coast African realised 1½d. per lb.

HONEY.—A lot of 73 kegs Chilean pile 3 are reported sold at 18s. per cwt.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, December 17.

Our drug-market shows very little business at present, partly owing to the approach of the holidays.

ALOES.—Cape is very firm and dearer, 76m. per 100 kilos. being asked.

AGAR-AGAR is a little cheaper at 400m. per 100 kilos.

ANISEED.—Russian is quoted 38m. per 100 kilos.

ANTIMONY on the spot is quoted 27m., and forward delivery 26½m. per 100 kilos.

BALSAM, PERU, is very firm and tending dearer; to-day's price is 13m. per kilo.

CAMPHOR.—Refined is quiet and little doing; second-hand holders ask 430m. per 100 kilos.

COCA-LEAVES.—A large parcel of Bolivian has changed hands at 275m. per 100 kilos.

CITRIC ACID is unchanged at 235m. per 100 kilos.

CUMIN-SEED is quiet, and lower at 53½m. per 100 kilos.

CANTHARIDES is very firm, and 525m. per 100 kilos. is asked.

CORIANDER-SEED for spot delivery is held at 19m. to 19½m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT is quiet, with Spanish quoted 355m. to 350m., and Russian 345m. to 340m. per 100 kilos.

FENUGREEK-SEED on the spot is firm at 16m., and forward 14½m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium keeps firm at 445m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is quiet at 30½m. per kilo.

OPIMUM is also quiet at 18½m. per kilo.

QUININE.—Neglected at 39m. per kilo.

STAR-ANISE is dull of sale at 125m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA-SEED is quiet at 72m. per 100 kilos.

JAPANESE WAX is very firm, spot being held at 68m. and forward delivery at 63½m. per 100 kilos.

COD-LIVER OIL is very firm, holders of non-congealing oil asking 70m. per barrel.

CASTOR OIL is slow of sale, with first pressing, in barrels, on the spot, at 56½m., and for January-June delivery 53½m. per 100 kilos. is asked.

LINSEED OIL is firm but quiet; cotton seed oil is very firm and advancing.

STAR-ANISE OIL is quiet at 10½m. per kilo.

PEPPERMINT OIL is firm at 8.75m. per lb. for HGH, and 8½m. and 8¼m. per kilo. for Japanese.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, December 19:—Business here is very quiet. Lycopodium, jalap, and spermaceti are firmly held.

* * * *

SMYRNA, December 19 —Market here is stronger owing to further sales (on Wednesday to Wednesday) of 120 cases, including manufacturing qualities, at the equivalent of from 7s. 10d. to 8s. 4d. per lb., and extra selected Yerli opium at 9s.

* * * *

NEW YORK, December 19.—Business here is very tame as the year closes. American bleached beeswax is firmer and scarce at 30c. per lb. Balsam of Peru is rather unsettled at \$1.40 per lb.; and balsam of tolu is easy at 30c. Senega is steady at 52c.; and golden seal (Hydrastis) is quoted 45c. per lb. Cinchonidine is firmer at 26c. per oz.

London Markets.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Quiet, at 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb. for ordinary ice-crystals (39° to 40° C.), and 6¼d. to 6½d. for 34° to 35° C.; crude, 50 per cent., 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.; 60 per cent., 1s. 11d., and 75 per cent., 2s. 5d. per gallon.

ACONITE is quoted 35s., c.i.f.

ARSENIC is dearer, the lowest price for best white powdered being 15l. 10s. per ton, net.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—A sale of four barrels good cloudy Maranham is reported from Liverpool on the basis of 2s. 1d. per lb., showing a firm market.

BALSAM PERU.—Good thick quality is firmly held at 6s. 6d. per lb.

CAMPHOR.—English refiners have advanced their quotations 1d. per lb., and now quote bells and flowers at 2s. 2½d., ½-ton lots at 2s. 2d., and for orders of a ton and upwards they now make a further reduction of ½d. per lb. German refiners make no alteration.

CINCHONA.—At auction on Tuesday the small supply of 1,552 packages offered and sold readily at an average unit of 1½d. to 1¾d., being unchanged compared with last London sales, and showing an advance of 10 per cent. on last week's Amsterdam sale:—

The following table shows the quantity of bark offered and sold:—

	Packages offered.	Packages sold.
South American cinchona ...	735	735
East Indian cinchona ...	578	542
Java cinchona ...	167	122
Ceylon cinchona ...	72	50
	1,552	1,449

The following were the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
American and Italian factories ...	51,874
Brunswick factory ...	47,439
Frankfort and Stuttgart factories...	45,107
Messrs. Howards & Sons ...	43,718
Imperial factory ...	24,143
Paris factory ...	18,004
Mannheim and Amsterdam factories ...	17,030
Druggists, &c. ...	3,330

Total quantity sold ... 250,645

Bought in or withdrawn ... 24,744

Total quantity offered ... 275,389

The prices paid were as under:—

JAVA.—Ledgeriana stem-chips, 8½d. to 9¼d.; fine stem, 11¼d.; branch ditto, 4d. to 7d.; red root, 3½d. to 5¾d. per lb.; 1s. 1½d. was refused for rich stem.

SOUTH AMERICAN.—Bolivian cultivated Calisaya, chips, &c., 5½d. to 6½d.; good stem, 7d. to 8¼d.; and fine, 8½d. to 9½d. per lb.

CEYLON.—Succirubra chips and shavings, 2¼d.; renewed, mixed, 4½d.; and good ditto, 6½d.

EAST INDIAN.—Officialis, stem chips and shavings, ordinary to fair natural, 2¾d. to 4d.; good, 4½d. to 6¾d.; root, 5½d. to 7¼d.; renewed, ordinary to good, 2¾d. to 6½d.; hybrid and Ledger chips, 2¾d. to 4½d.; Ledgeriana, branch, 3d. to 6d., and root, 6d. to 7½d.; Succirubra, stem chips and shavings, 3d. to 3½d.; root, mixed, 1½d.; fair, 3d. to 3½d.; good, 4½d.; fine, 6d. to 6½d.; and renewed, 5½d. per lb.

In the drug-auctions 16 packages of Crown and grey bark were catalogued, but did not arrive in time for auction.

The exports from Java for the first half of the month were 500,000 Amsterdam lbs., against 470,000 last year, and 270,000 in 1899.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—For new bark on the spot 26s. has been paid this week. From New York 23s. 6d., c.i.f., is quoted.

COPPER SULPHATE is lower at 19l. 15s. per ton on the spot for good brands, and Liverpool 18l. to 19l., f.o.b.

DANDELION is quoted 24s. per cwt., c.i.f., for whole and 33s. for cut root.

GALLS.—Persian are firmly held at from 67s. 6d. to 70s. per cwt. for blue from secondhands, but importers continue to ask above these prices. In Chinese galls some 200 cases have been sold on the spot at 60s. per cwt., but for arrival 53s., c.i.f., is quoted. In the drug-auction 14 bags Persian blue were offered, partly without reserve, and sold at 52s. to 61s. for sea-damaged.

GAMBIER.—Fine pale cubes have been sold on the spot at 42s. 6d. per cwt., but for quantity this figure may be shaded; for December-January shipment 38s., c.i.f., is quoted.

GAMBOGE.—Nothing was offered in auction to-day, and, as will be seen from the figures below, the exports from Singapore have been exceptionally small. There are 98 packages in the warehouse, but the bulk of them are small in size.

The exports from Singapore from January 1 to October 31 (in piculs) have been:—

	Great Britain	U.S.A.
1901 ...	15	66
1900 ...	50	119
1899 ...	192	124
1898 ...	214	95
1897 ...	226	110
1896 ...	118	15

GUM ARABIC.—In East Indian gums sales privately have been made at 23s. 6d. per cwt. for good palish unsifted brown Amrad, middling Ghatti at 15s. 6d., and ordinary to good ditto 11s. to 13s.

IODIDES.—The makers of iodide preparations have again renewed their agreement for another term. This convention includes the principal English, Scotch, French, German, and Italian makers. Values are unaltered.

MENTHOL.—Spot is unchanged at 14s. 9d. to 15s. per lb. In auction one case of Kobayashi brand, good dry crystals, was held for 15s. per lb.

MORPHINE is 1d. easier, makers quoting 4s. 6d. per oz. net for hydrochloride or acetate in contract quantities.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The London market is quiet, agents

quoting from 72s. 6d. to 80s. per barrel, c.i.f., nominally. Our Bergen correspondent writes that it is becoming more and more evident that the stocks of non-congealing col-liver oil are now greatly reduced both in Bergen and the Northern cities. The market is therefore very firm at 69s. per barrel, f.o.b. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 13,149 barrels, against 10,357 barrels at the same time last year.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—The s.s. *Antenor* from Melbourne, Adelaide, &c., has arrived with four consignments amounting to 347 cases.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—For American GHG 9s. per lb. spot has been refused, 9s. 3d. being wanted. Japanese demethylised is firm at 4s. spot, or 3s. 9d., c.i.f., and 40 per cent. is nominal at 7s. 9d.

OIL, WINTERGREEN is quoted 7s. per lb., c.i.f., for pure.

OPIUM.—A fair business has been done in Persian on the spot at from 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per lb. according to quality, and in Turkey druggists' at from 8s. 6d. to 9s.

SMYRNA, December 6.—American buyers who have purchased some 70 cases this week have had to pay an advance of 2d. per lb. on previous rates, owing to the firmness of holders. The sales were as follows:—Forty cases new current talequale at the equivalent of 7s. 10d. to 7s. 11d. per lb., c.i.f.; 25 cases new and old current Karahissar talequale at 8s. 2d. to 8s. 3d.; and 4 cases new Yerli at 9s. 1d. The market closes firm with further buyers. The arrivals in Smyrna amount to 2,830 cases, against 3,547 cases at the same time last year. The weather keeps favourable for the sowings, and prices are likely to decline again unless hard frost sets in. The condition of the new opium is still very soft, and it is difficult to fill orders with stuff in dry condition.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 13.—After the recent decline the market is again firmer, and we think that henceforward a better tone will prevail. The autumn sowings have been generally very successful, but are by no means assured as yet. No sales have been made this week.

The exports of opium from Salonica during 1900 amounted to 102 tons (132,600l.) to the United Kingdom, and 26 tons (33,800l.) to Austria Hungary.

PILOCARPINE has advanced about 15s. per oz., and German makers now quote nitrate and hydrochloride salts at 2s. 8d. per gramme, 2s. 6d. for 5 grammes, and 70s. for 1-oz. lots. Pure is quoted 3s. 1d. to 3s. 3d. per gramme, and 85s. for 1-oz. lots.

QUININE—The Amsterdam cinchona-sale last week being considered satisfactory, the second-hand market for quinine immediately took an upward turn, March delivery selling at 1s. 1½d. and May at 1s. 1¾d. to 1s. 2d. per oz., with buyers on the spot at 1s. 1d., but no sellers. This week, however, the moderate shipments from Java for the first half of the month has depressed the market, and very little business has transpired during the last two or three days, sellers preferring to hold on to their stocks. The nearest spot-price of good German brands in bulk is 1s. 1½d., and a small sale has been made at this figure to-day. March is quoted 1s. 1½d. and May 1s. 1¾d. per oz.

At the auction of quinine held in Batavia on Wednesday, the whole quantity offered (4,300 kilos. of Ed. II) has been sold at an average of 20½fl. per kilo. (about equal 7½c. Amsterdam unit), against 20fl. per kilo. at the previous auction.

RHATANY.—There is practically nothing to be had on the spot, so that no quotation is obtainable. A shipment which is now on the way is expected about the latter part of January.

SENEGA is quoted by one holder at 2s. 1½d. per lb., net, but others make no change. New York advices intimate that local stocks are very light compared with the quantities held in December of previous years.

SHELLAC.—No shellac was offered at the drysaltery auctions on Tuesday as there is little on the spot. The market has been much stronger, and on Wednesday prices advanced owing to higher rates from Calcutta. Fair Second Orange is quoted 122s. to 123s. 6d. spot, and several hundred cases have been sold. In "futures" a good business has been done, including December delivery, at 124s., January 126s., to 128s., February 127s., March 129s. to 130s., May 131s. 6d. For arrival close at hand A.C. Garnet has been sold at 118s. to 119s., c.i.f.

SPICES.—The market is quiet, and there is very little business to note this week. The auctions on Wednesday

were small, and nearly everything was bought in, the exception being Nyassaland *Chillies*, which sold with good competition, but at easier prices, good to fine bringing 44s. to 47s. 6d., and little mixed 40s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt.; common dark stalky Zanzibar were bought in at 35s. per cwt. Nyassaland *Capsicums* sold at 24s. per cwt. for cherries, at 28s. for medium pods, and at 50s. for long pods. All the parcels of *Ginger* were bought in, small rough Cochin at 45s., good washed rough at 52s. and rough limed Japan at 45s. per cwt. *Pimento* firm, but quiet; only one lot sold at 3½d. per lb. for clean grey. Dull thin Singapore *Mace* was bought in at 1s. 6d. per lb. Zanzibar *Cloves* are rather easier at 4½d. per lb. for March-May delivery; fair Penang were bought in at 8½d. per lb. *Pepper* is quiet, and lower for black since our report last week, Singapore having been sold at 6¼d. per lb. for January-March shipment. The market, however, now shows a firmer tendency. At auction Penang was bought in at 5½d., and greyish Malabar at 6¼d. per lb. Singapore white was withdrawn at 10½d. per lb.

STICKLAC.—Dearer. In auction 50 cases good sifted Siam offered and sold at 64s. per cwt.

SULPHUR.—The New Zealand Mines Department reports the output of sulphur in the colony in 1900 at 1,692 tons—an increase of 465 tons over the previous year.

TURMERIC.—Cochin is steady, at 17s. 6d. to 18s. per cwt. for finger, and 12s. to 12s. 6d. for split bulbs. Madras is slow of sale, at from 18s. to 22s. per cwt.

VALERIAN.—For not less than 5-cwt. quantities, 18s. 3d. per cwt., c.i.f., is quoted.

WAX, PARAFFIN.—Refined is quoted 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb., and crude 2d. to 2½d.

London Drug-auctions.

New goods only were offered to-day, and they proved to be about the smallest auction of drugs so far held, being concluded before noon. The tone was very poor, the principal demand being for asafetida, senna, and Rio ipecacuanha. The first drug-sales next year will take place at the rather early date of January 9. The following table shows the goods offered and sold:—

Offered		Sold		Offered		Sold	
Aloes—				Ipecacuanha—Rio	31	...	23
Cape	23	...	15	Kino	7	...	0
Ambergris.....	7	...	2*	Lime-juice	8	...	0
Ammoniacum	2	...	0	Liquorice-juice	20	...	0
Araroba	6	...	0	Menthol.....	1	...	0
Asafetida	312	...	125	Oil—			
Benzoin—				anise, star	5	...	0
Palembang	15	...	15	cassia	20	...	0
Sumatra	79	...	24	eucalyptus	57	...	0
Calumba	17	...	14	lemon	3	...	0
Canella alba	16	...	2	wood (Chin.).....	77	...	0
Cantharides (Chin.)	10	...	0	Rhubarb	29	...	1
Cardamom-seeds	18	...	0	Senna—			
Cardamoms	11	...	11	Alexandrian			
Cascarilla	35	...	13	(pods)	8	...	8
Chillies	10	...	0	Tinnevely.....	287	...	287
Coca-leaves	19	...	0	Squills	9	...	0
Cubebs	61	...	0	Tamarinds (W.I.)	25	...	0
Cuttlefish-bone	9	...	0	(E.I.)	115	...	30
Ergot	10	...	0	Tragacanth	4	...	0
Galls	14	...	13	Wax (bees')—			
Grains of Paradise	5	...	0	Australian	5	...	0
Honey (Californian)	50	...	0	East Indian	30	...	0
Jamaica	75	...	12	Morocco	15	...	5*
Ipecacuanha—				Syrian	6	...	2
Cartagena.....	7	...	2	Zanzibar	175	...	38

* Sold privately.

ALOES.—Cape aloes was the only description offered, and 14 cases had been sold privately at 37s. to 38s. per cwt., marking an advance of 1s. 6d. on previous public sale prices. For dull and partly drossy seconds 34s. 6d. was refused, 33s. being the limit. A case of sweepings sold at 21s.

ASAFETIDA.—Two consignments from the Persian Gulf, amounting to 312 packages, were offered, but they contained no fine gum. There has been a decided falling off in the quality of these direct shipments from the Persian Gulf of late, and they do not now command the attention of buyers so much as when fine pinky gum was offered. There was a good demand, however, for the medium grades, at lower

prices were paid, principally for export to the United States. Common grades were neglected. Of the first 137 packages offered, 9 packages only were sold, as follows:—Slightly loose and broken greyish almond block, 70s. to 72s. 6d., and brown block, but well mixed with gum, 67s. 6d. For the second parcel of 175 packages from Bushire, 116 packages sold as follows:—Reddish, sandy and heavy block, mixed with almonds, some loose, 67s. 6d. to 75s. per cwt.; commoner ditto, 57s. 6d. to 65s.; good loose and broken block, rather heavy, 65s.; reddish block, partly loose, 57s. 6d. to 60s. per cwt. Further business was afterwards done privately.

BENZONIN.—Quiet, but steady. A pile of 24 cases good fair Sumatra seconds sold at 7l. 7s. 6d. to 7l. 10s. per cwt.; and for 15 cases fair but greyish and harky Palembang gum 35s. to 39s. was paid.

The imports from Singapore from January 1 to October 31 (in piculs) have been:—

	Great Britain	Continent	U.S.A.
1901 ...	1,409	1,688	171
1900 ...	1,116	2,259	41
1899 ...	1,180	802	51
1898 ...	762	940	—
1897 ...	540	1,580	—
1896 ...	3,389	1,373	—

CALUMBA.—A lot of 13 bags ordinary brown sorts, partly in long slices and lean, sold cheaply at 8s. 6d. per cwt. A bag of small to hold washed, but water-damaged, sold without reserve at 13s.

CANELLA ALBA.—Two bales offered "without reserve," and sold at 42s. per cwt. for palish, but very rough, mixed quill.

CANTHARIDES.—A direct shipment of 10 cases of Chinese from Hankow was offered, and 2s. 6d. per lb. was wanted for them. Privately are firm at 2s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., for Russian.

CARDAMOMS.—Only 11 cases offered; for medium to boldish pale Ceylon-Mysore, 2s. 7d. was paid, 2s. 2d. for small to medium ditto, small, 1s. 8d., very small pale, 1s. 4d., medium splits, 1s. 8d., and small ditto, 1s. 4d. per lb. Ten cases of pale seeds were held at 2s., and a further 8 cases were not ready in time.

CASCARILLA.—Dearer. A lot of 13 hales nice bright and bold quill sold at 65s. to 66s. per cwt.; and for 18 bales lean and stringy bright quill 48s. to 49s. was paid.

COCA-LEAVES.—For 12 bales nice thin green Huanoco leaves 1s. 1d. was refused, the limit being 1s. 6d. per lb.

CUBEBS.—For fair, but mixed and stalky berries 35s. was mentioned as the price, but no bids were made. The exports from Singapore to Great Britain from January 1 to October 31 have been: 1901, 104 piculs; 1900, 268; 1899, —; 1898, 1,142; 1897, 282; and 1896, 295 piculs.

GRAINS OF PARADISE.—Five bags of good quality were bought in; 70s. was wanted for them.

GUM AMMONIACUM.—For 2 cases very seedy drop 15s. was wanted, a bid of 12s. being refused.

HONEY.—Slow of sale. Of 68 packages Jamaica offered, 5 casks only sold at 18s. per cwt. for palish set. From another catalogue 7 casks dark amber liquid Jamaica sold at 16s. Fifty cases Californian honey were offered, and for part, consisting of pale amber liquid, 32s. 6d. was refused.

IPECACUANHA.—Rio was in unusually good demand to-day at unchanged rates, 7 hales of fair to good bold sound root selling at 10s. 6d. per lb. Seventeen hales of sea-damaged sold cheaply on account of the underwriters at from 9s. to 9s. 9d. per lb., and for good native picked 11s. was wanted. Of Cartagena 2 bags sold at 5s. 4d. to 5s. 5d. for fair average quality rather dusty, and for 5 hags of nice clean dry bold root 5s. 6d. was wanted, a bid of 5s. 5d. being refused in this instance.

KINO.—Neglected in auction. Seven cases of small black Cochin grain were held at 1s. per lb.

OIL, ANISE STAR.—Five cases Chinese were limited at 5s. per lb.

OIL CASSIA.—For 78 per cent. c.a. (Parry's analysis) 2s. 9d. per lb. was wanted.

RHUBARB.—Fifteen cases of flat *High-dried* were shown, 1 case of which was fine hold with nice coat, and three-quarter pinky and one-quarter grey and dark fracture, which brought 11d. per lb. The remaining 14 cases were of small to medium sizes and of similar fracture, and were bought in at 1s. From another catalogue 14 cases of flat *High-dried* small to medium sizes, with two-thirds pinky and grey fracture, one-third dark, were bought in at 9d.

SENNA.—Only Tinnevely leaf was brought forward, and the bulk of it was of common quality, which sold at unchanged rates, but fair leaf was quite 1d. dearer. The following prices were paid:—Fair greenish leaf, 4½d. to 4¾d.; small and medium greenish ditto, 2¾d. to 3¼d.; ordinary specky to middling, 1¾d. to 2½d., and common yellowish and brown, 1d. to 1½d. per lb. Pods opened cheaper, but subsequently went dearer, from 1½d. up to 2½d. (3 bales) being paid. Of Alexandrian senna 8 hales of good pale pods were offered and sold at 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb., being unchanged. A steamer is due next week with 330 hales of Tinnevely leaf from Bombay.

TAMARINDS.—Thirty robbins of common brown Madras sold at 4s. 6d. per cwt., being slightly under brokers' limits; for black Madras 6s. was wanted.

WAX, BEES'.—No Madagascar or Jamaica offered. Of Zanzibar, 174 packages were shown, 6l. 12s. 6d. being wanted for good but slightly drossy. Even brown sold at 6l. 10s. per cwt., subject, and mixed quality at 6l. Two bags Syrian sold at 7l. 5s.

Californian Honey.

A report from San Francisco, dated December 3, states that the crop of Californian honey this year has been a puzzler to the people who buy and sell it. For three years the flowers had been so scant that beemen had got rid of whole colonies in some instances, and had reduced the number of their hives. As the record stands, and so far as it can be got at, there have been shipped out of Southern California this season about 160 carloads of honey, about 25 carloads of this being comb, something never known before. There have been shipped from Central California about 15 cars. No one knows how many carloads are left. Some of those who take most pains to learn say they cannot find more than 25 to 35 cars. Others claim there are 50 to 75 cars still in this territory. Prices have ruled at 4c. to 4½c. per lb. for the extracted product, with some dark sold below 4c. and some light at as high as 5c. These are wholesale prices paid the beemen.

Speaking of extracted honey, there are three elements to take into account—flavour, body, and colour. Flavour and colour go largely together, for if the honey is light in colour it is presumable that it is made of pure flowers, and they impart the right flavour as well as the right colour. The body depends largely on the skill used in curing the honey. Well-evaporated goods will be firm body, and poor-evaporated, thin. If the curing is not properly done the flavour of the best honey will be impaired. Colour is wherein the greatest difference is found, and it is on this the price largely depends. There are "water white," "white," "light amber," "amber," "dark amber," "dark," and "very dark." The lines between these shades are very indefinite and hard to fix.

MESSRS. H. LYON & MAYER, 75 Mark Lane, E.C., have dissolved partnership. Mr. N. Mayer has commenced business on his own account as a drug and commission merchant, at 54 Leadenhall Street, E.C., and Mr. H. Lyon has entered the firm of J. Lyon & Co., 75 Mark Lane, E.C., as partner.

SOMETHING QUITE NEW.—"If a chemist is deprived of his profession it is done in a most summary and business-like way. The Pharmaceutical Society has the power to take away his diplomas, without which it is forbidden by law for him to practise, should he be guilty of persistently selling poisons without a qualified doctor's order, or prescribing for or diagnosing a disease, against the regulations laid down for him. The case is generally left for the Civil Courts to decide, after which the Society can drop on the offender, and expel him from the profession for ever by withdrawing his diplomas."—*Answers.*